FALL 2011

Middlebury

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can #WIT# BE Taught?

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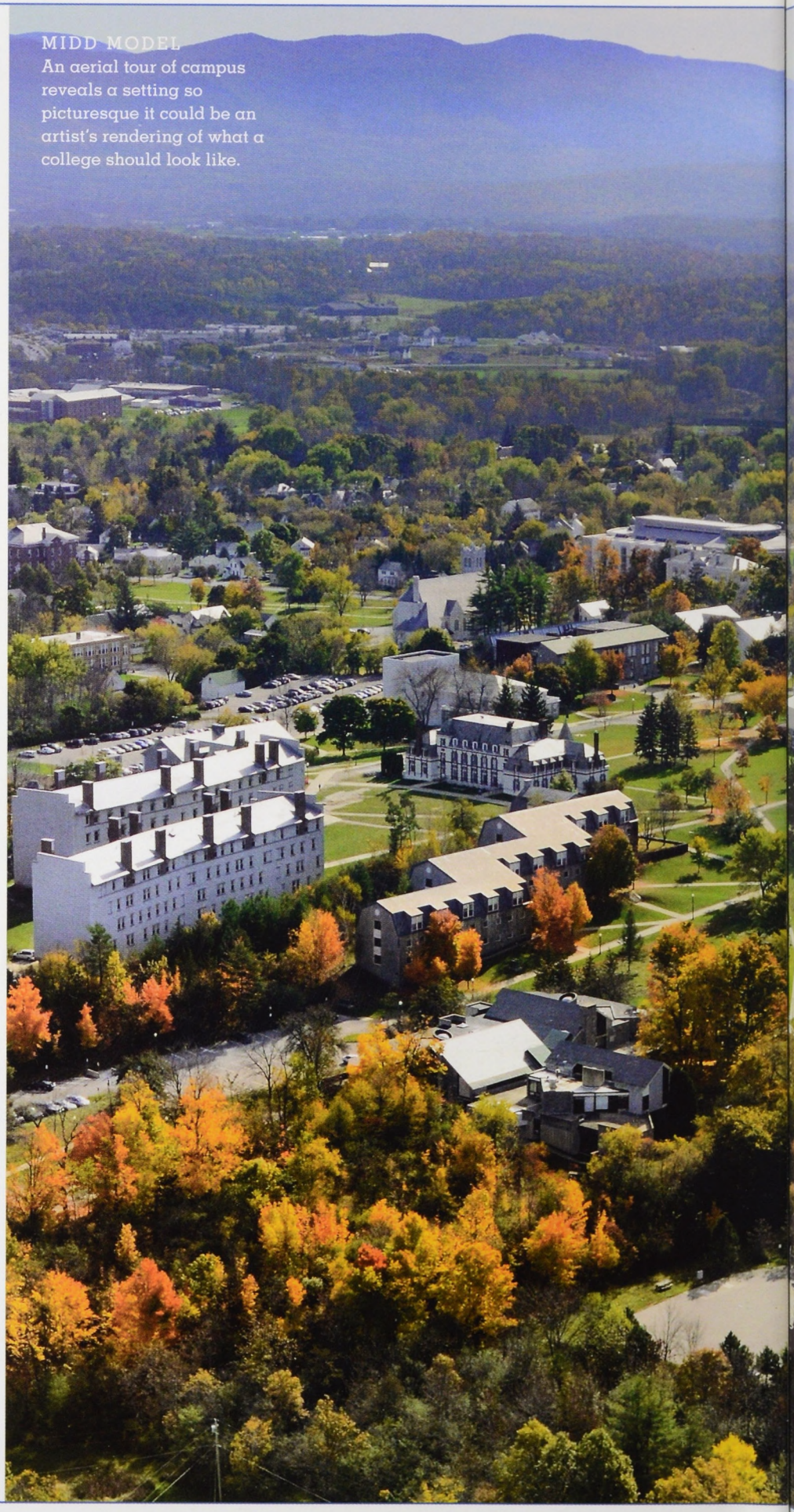

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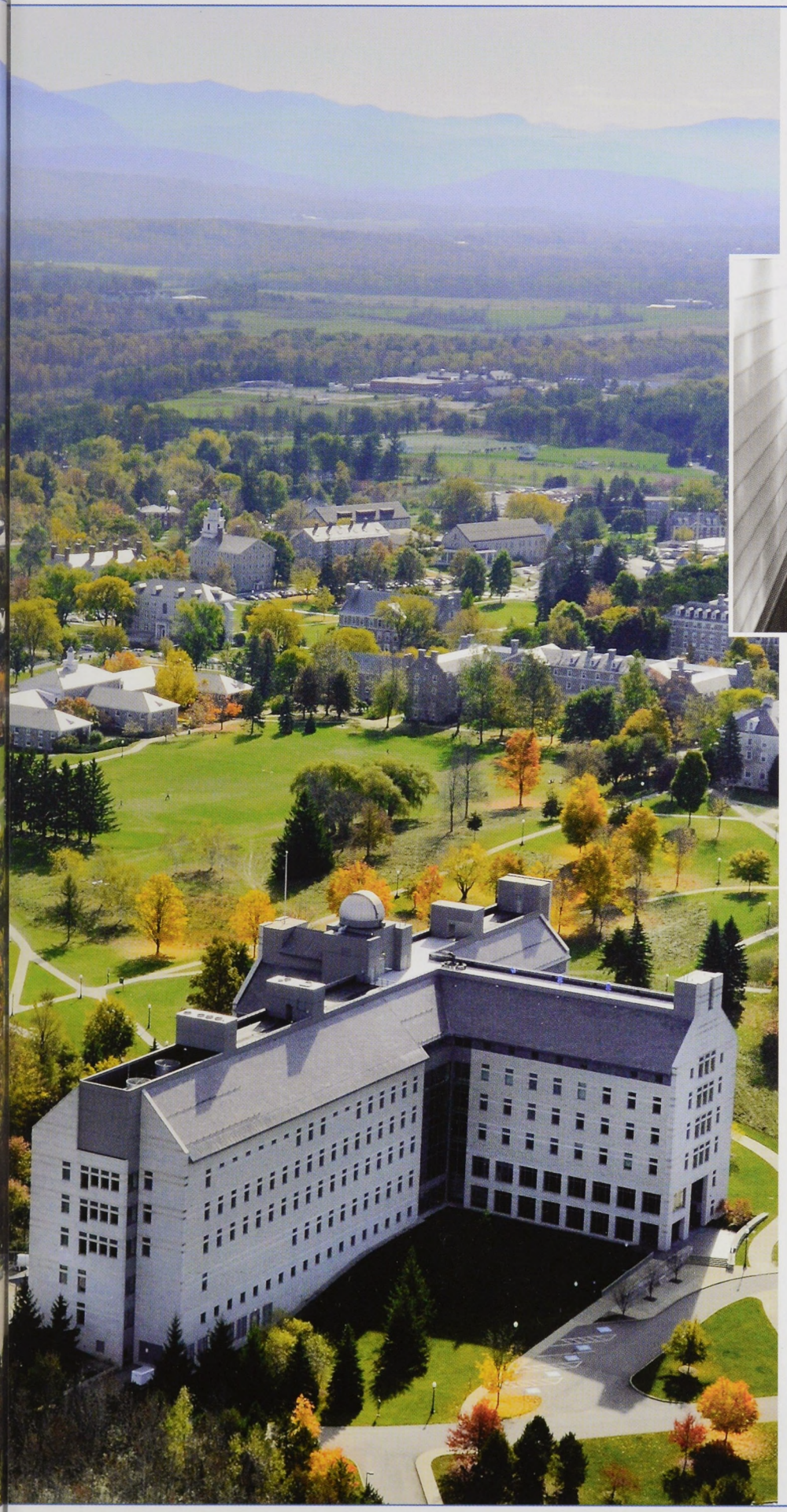

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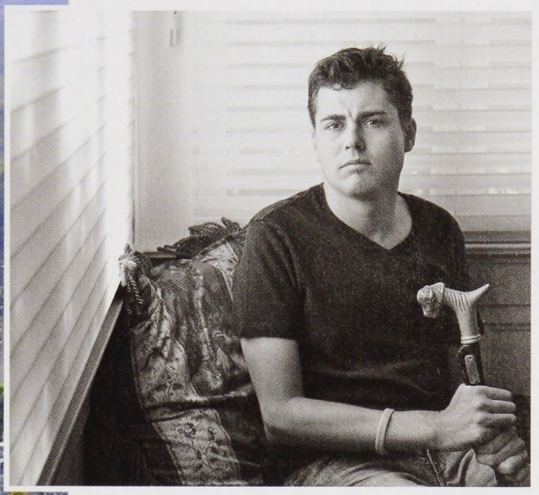

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Ten years later, an alumnus recalls what it was like to work in a living hell.

A Common Experience

How a first-year reading group illuminates a prize-winning text.

WE ARE SITTING IN A SEMICIRCLE ON THE STAGE of the Mahaney Center Concert Hall, grappling with Junot Díaz's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao.*

The hall, itself, is empty, though just a few moments earlier, the room had been filled with every first-year assigned to Brainerd Commons, along with Brainerd staff and the Common Reading Group facilitators. That's why I'm here, to facilitate one of the groups. I have to admit that I volunteered because I saw it as an opportunity to force me to read a book that I've been intending to read since it was published a few years ago. But as the rest of Brainerd decamps for other nooks around the building and my group somewhat nervously settles in on the stage for our discussion, I chuckle to myself. *Fool,* my inner voice scolds me. *You and your selfish impulses. What do you know about facilitating a reading group?*

The students arrayed around me have come from Switzerland and Seattle, Memphis and Montana, the Bronx and Long Island, and they are looking at me expectantly, as though I should know what I'm doing. And we start to talk . . . about the protagonist, Oscar de León; about the reliability of the narrator, Yunior; about the disjointed narrative; about the use of footnotes and our collective ignorance of Dominican history and popular culture references that some of us understand and others absolutely do not.

Ninety minutes have passed, and it's time for our discussion to end, over before it really began. But it hasn't ended at all. As we walk out into a warm evening ("I just want it to snow!" says the Seattle-ite), the students continue to talk about *Oscar Wao* as they make their way toward Proctor and points beyond. One of the more animated kids is one who admitted an hour earlier that he wouldn't have picked up this book if it hadn't been assigned and that he would still place it in the category of a book he *had* to read, as opposed to a book he'd read for fun.

A few weeks later, I'm sitting in the McCullough Social Space, listening to Shirley Collado, dean and chief diversity officer of the College, quiz Díaz, himself, talk-show-style on the stage of the cavernous space. It's an exclusive event—only first-years and Commons faculty and staff have been invited to this discussion (Díaz's evening talk at Mead Chapel is open to the public). The venue was chosen to accommodate 600-odd people, and while the room isn't filled to capacity, there is a very good turnout, especially on a warm and sunny autumn afternoon.

Collado is asking Díaz questions that emerged from the group discussions, and he addresses the first-years as honestly and wisely as anyone could possibly hope for. He speaks to his struggles as a writer: "Sometimes you're in a situation where you are really good at something that you happen to find really, really hard to do." He explains why individuals should be confused when reading *Oscar Wao:* "Nobody understands life. That's the way life *is.* It's absolutely normal, when reading, for you not to know something. A community is required to achieve understanding." And he talks about why, when doing research, he prefers to observe rather than to ask questions: "By the very nature of your question, you are skewing the answer."

But it's toward the end of the discussion that Díaz says something that, to me, brings this entire experience into its proper context. "I wrote this book from the memory of being a reader. This Common reading? It's how books should be read. We are all present in one space, together, at the same time. In this world, we have to fight hard to find that. And this is the muscle that we will survive on." —*MJ*

Middlebury
MAGAZINE

FALL 2011
VOLUME 85, NUMBER 4

Editor
MATT JENNINGS

Art Director
PAMELA FOGG

Assistant Editor
REGAN EBERHART

Designers
CAREY BASS '99, SEPI ALAVI

Alumni Editor
SARA THURBER MARSHALL

Contributing Editors
STEPHEN DIEHL, ROBERT KEREN, BLAIR KLOMAN, MA ENGLISH '94

Editorial Office
152 College Street
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753
Phone: 802.443.5670
E-mail: middmag@middlebury.edu
Online: www.middmag.com

Advertising Sales Office
H. Abby Hummel
18 Garfield Street, Bristol, VT 05443
Phone: 802.453.2913
E-mail: Abby@GetSmartVT.com

Other College Offices
(all area code 802)
College Information: 443.5000
Alumni Office: 443.5183
Admissions: 443.3000

The views presented are not necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of the College.

Middlebury College of Middlebury, VT 05753, publishes *Middlebury Magazine* (ISSN 0745-2454) four times a year: winter, spring, summer, and fall. © 2011 Middlebury College Publications. *Middlebury Magazine* is printed at The Lane Press in South Burlington, VT. Nonprofit standard mail postage paid at Middlebury, VT, and at additional mailing offices (USPS 964-820). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Middlebury Magazine,* Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. Printed in U.S.A.

Pause for Thought

THE SUMMER 2011 ISSUE has given me cause for some serious thought about my life, my secular work as a human resources specialist, and my pastoral ministry. President Liebowitz ("The Need for Wrong Answers") teaches me that I don't have to be right all the time, as we clergy often think we must be. And my fellow Lutheran pastor Barbara Melosh '72 ("Requiem for a Grouchy Old Bastard") reflects my own experience in responding to unchurched families looking for a minister to bury their dead (or to officiate at their weddings or baptize their children). You never know what kinds of hurt these individuals and families may have suffered at the hands of uncaring church people in the past. Thank you.

Roger Newton '63
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

REQUIEM FOR A REQUIEM
Learning important lessons, whether it's remembering to care or accepting mistakes.

Where'd the Moose Come From?

PLEASE EXPLAIN THE COVER OF THE SUMMER ISSUE. I can get as far as 25th reunion of the class of 1986 photographer trying to take a photo, moose appears and photographer is angry, reunioners not engaged. Surely the moose has not replaced the panther as a mascot. I often don't understand *New Yorker* cartoons either, but I need help here in my own backyard, so to speak.

Mew Wisotzkey McClellan '45
Peterborough, New Hampshire

Editors' Note
Rest assured, our moose interloper has not replaced the panther as Midd's mascot. In this whimsical scene, illustrator Harry Bliss is converging two rites of summer in these parts: class photos at reunion and moose sightings.

Accolades

ON PAGE 15 OF THE SUMMER ISSUE, the magazine mentioned that "a record number of Monterey and Middlebury students received Fulbright awards" for the coming year. One more that deserves mention: Nora Webb Williams '06 will be heading to Uzbekistan in January of 2012 for 10 months to continue research for her double-master's program in public policy and Central Eurasian studies at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Megan Osterhout '06
Dorset, Vermont

Editors' Note
We regret the omission and wish Nora well on her exciting adventure.

Letting Go—or Not

PETER KNOBLER'S ESSAY ("Play Ball," spring 2011) and Claudette Dunk's letter ("Here I Am," summer 2011), both of which addressed aging, struck a chord with me. For the last few years, I have lived in fear of hearing four words: "She let herself go."

As I confront the inevitable decline of my formerly youthful figure (the figure that has never ever met my high standards or my desire for thinner thighs, a flatter stomach, a smaller nose, or slightly larger breasts); the prickly hairs that seem to sprout nightly on my chin despite vigilant tweezing and a dictate to all friends and family to PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU SEE A BLACK HAIR ON MY FACE!!; the age spots on my hands and legs that remind me of my 92-year-old mother; and the longer and longer time it takes to remember names, places, and where I put my glasses, I live in fear of hearing the phrase that somehow has become part of the lexicon that pertains to aging women.

I have never heard anyone say about a man, "He let himself go."

My female friends seem to have similar fears. My friend Daphne tells me she detests the phrase "thickening of the waist." Another friend hates the expression "she's going to seed."

What are our choices, here? I ricochet daily between various philosophies and practices concerning aging. Should I attempt to embrace the Zen-mode-graceful-acceptance-focus-on-other-more-important-things that my friend Tonya espouses? "Look, it's going to happen, so just don't worry about it, no one cares," she says. My mother's most memorable advice when I was a teenager was "not everyone's looking at *you*, dear." I repeat this daily. But the rub is, there were some days when at least a few men *were* looking at me, and it felt great!

And yet . . . vanity overtakes me from time to time—when I experience sudden momentary panic and realize I don't look as good as I used to. I have declared a formal prohibition on all pictures of me in bathing suits (especially the ones husbands seem to love to take on the beach from

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the angle looking up your body from your feet that make you look like a whale no matter how slender you are). My friend Bess says the days of looking good in photos are over. Our jowls are just a bit more slack, the circles are a bit darker under our eyes, our tummies stick out just a bit over our pants tops.

I have periodic and increasingly frequent depressing thoughts about how much worse it's going to get before it's all done, especially when I help bathe and dress my elderly mother.

At the same time I have a sort of strange and absolutely unavoidable fixation on staring at women I see who have had "work done." There are very few of these where I live in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, but when I'm in New York City or even now occasionally in Stowe, Vermont, I just cannot stop looking at women who have had face lifts, nose jobs, boob jobs, and Botox or collagen injections. Their lips look so strange, their foreheads seem so stiff, their noses so inappropriately pert. I have to keep looking and have a hard time stopping. I am not sure why. I am old enough to remember the commercial tagline, "Does she, or doesn't she?"

As I try to suss out if she has or has not, I can't help feeling that I like my age spots, crow's feet, and irregular breasts (damn it, yes I do!) better than this strangely puffy and pulled skin, these inexpressive facial parts, and these roundish, tennis ball-like breasts.

And I resolve once again to be a more enlightened woman—one who focuses on inner strength, grace, and the beauty that comes from life experience, growing wisdom, and love.

And then my daughter and I run into an acquaintance we haven't seen in a while on the sidewalk. We have a brief conversation, catching up on news. We walk away, and my daughter says, "Did you see those hairs all over her chin? Why has she let herself go?"

Lauren Geiger Moye '80
St. Johnsbury, Vermont

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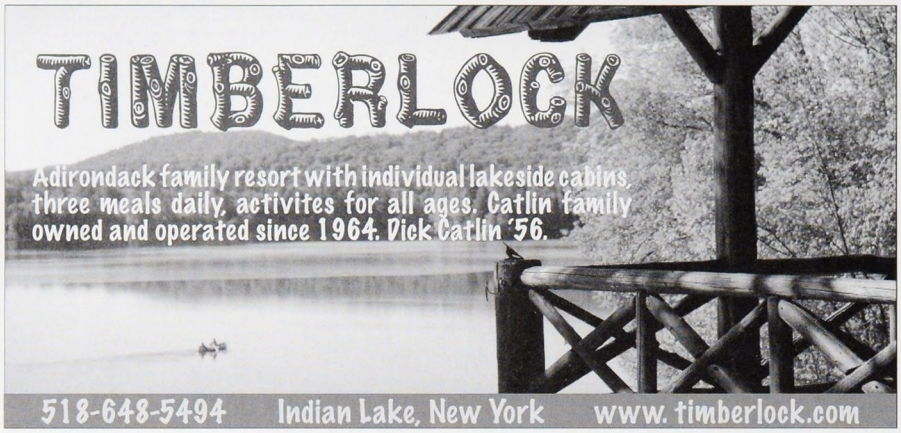
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Fill in Your Blanks

I HAVE NOTICED before that the magazine tends to assume a lot of background from the reader, and you have done it again in the article about Shirley Collado ("One Dean's View," summer 2011). The article talks about her return to Middlebury but nothing about when she left, where she went, what she did before she left, her background, and when and why she came back. Articles like that are very off-putting to those of us who don't live in Middlebury. Not very illuminating about the person.

Sorry to sound cranky but it is frustrating to read the magazine and come away with more questions than answers about the College today.

Bruce Moseley '75
Hubbardsville, New York

Editors' Note
While we like the idea of our stories prompting further questions from our readers, we certainly don't intend to leave anyone in the dark when it comes to pertinent information. Shirley Collado came to Middlebury in January 2007 to first serve as dean for institutional diversity and then as vice president for institutional planning and diversity. In December 2008, she left to take a position at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. We were thrilled to learn that she had decided to come back in July 2010 to take the position of dean of the College and chief diversity officer.

Stormy Fallout

I JUST READ THAT AMAZING *Middlebury Magazine* account of the hurricane of 1950 (Class Notes: "Alumni Stories," summer 2011). Ten years ago, I headed up a committee to restore the steeple of the Brandon church on Route 7—also a victim of the same storm, but there wasn't enough money to put it back until 2000. Imagine that, 50 years with no steeple! Thanks for the story.

Elizabeth Karnes Keefe
Cornwall, Vermont

Truth from Above

SUSAN CONLEY'S STORY, "Stranger in a Strange Land" (spring 2011), lacks the

triumph of humanity over itself found in Robert Heinlein's novel of the same name. Heinlein writes that we all have the ability to rise above our circumstances by using our untapped abilities to create a better world. I despaired when I read Heinlein's novel because I was searching for peace and meaning in a world where there is no peace and never will be. After reading Conley's story, I felt the same despair I felt as a teenager when I recognized that the author's search for a peace mirrored my own search as a teenager. Reconciliation to one's circumstances and environment and the search for peace, within and without, is an impossible task, and, if it is ever attained, it is transitory.

Susan Conley writes about her struggle to come to terms with her cancer. If she is preaching a Zen approach to life, I believe the exercise will ultimately fail. Peace and reconciliation are not found by focusing within; peace is found by finally understanding what truth is and how we all fit into the scheme of things. I believe that truth is not found within but from above.

When I was a sophomore in 1979, I met Lisa Bowen '82, who challenged me to read the Book of John, in the Bible. The Book of John is often used to explain the gospel and what it means to us. John 14:6 says of Jesus, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me." It's a great encouragement to me to believe that there is truth and not 100,000 variations of my truth versus your truth. How encouraging it is to believe that not only is there life after death but eternal life filled with joy and the glory of God. The spring of 1979,

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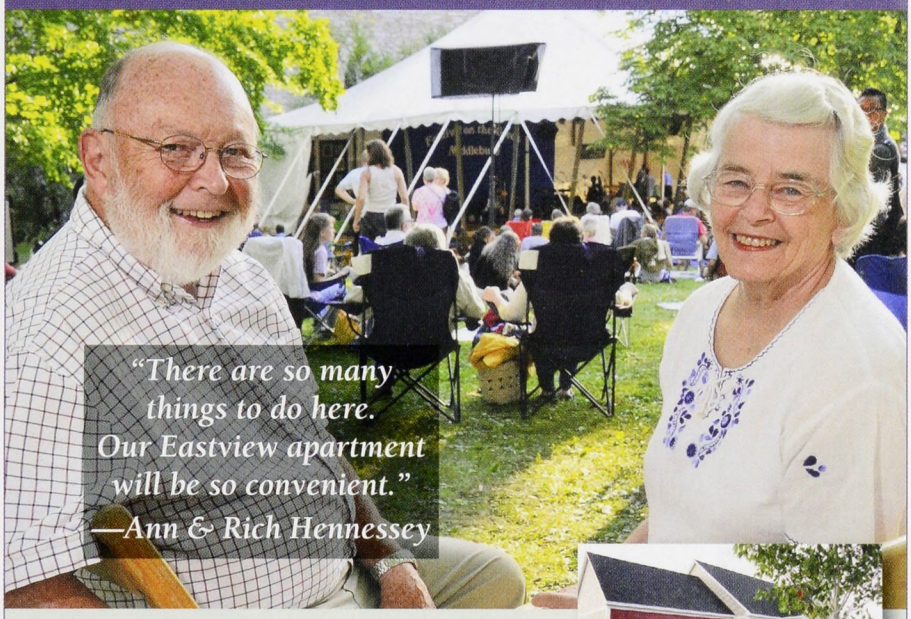

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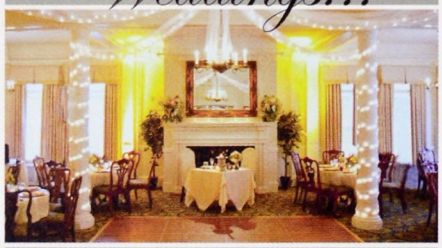

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I became a Christian because of Lisa's witness to me.

My life before that was often filled with despair about the capacity for the evil that fills men. I heard a criticism of Christianity by non-Christians that a loving God would never allow bad things to happen to good people. The My Lai massacre in Vietnam, the Kent State shootings, and the continuing pervasiveness of hidden slavery even in our own country today are no less an evil than a cancer that takes a mother, my friend Lisa, away from her children when they are only 15 and 12.

Lisa battled cancer twice, and she died two years ago. Throughout her struggle, she was surrounded by her church family, filled with people who supported and cared for her. Lisa's life touched a lot of people, and the world is better for her being in it.

I find it sad that Susan Conley placates her son in the conclusion of her piece by agreeing to his so-called fantasy that we could live forever. "How great their fantasies would be: a new skateboard, a whole pound of penny candy, immortality." I'm saddened by the comparison of penny candy to eternal life by someone who seems to believe that it *is* a fantasy.

My father-in-law passed away a year and a half ago, and it devastated my children. But they were brought up to believe in the hope of life that Christ offers us. They know that they will see their grandfather one day. I believe that our time here is short but we will spend eternity with each other.

Chris Tomlin's lyric, "Better one day in His courts than a thousand elsewhere" pretty much says it all. That's the legacy I want to leave for my children.

Bob Drosdick '82
Hamburg, New Jersey

This Wonderful World

I AM WRITING TO GIVE CREDIT where credit is due. I'm not a Middlebury student or alumna, but I came across *Middlebury Magazine*'s online series "How Did You Get Here" in doing some

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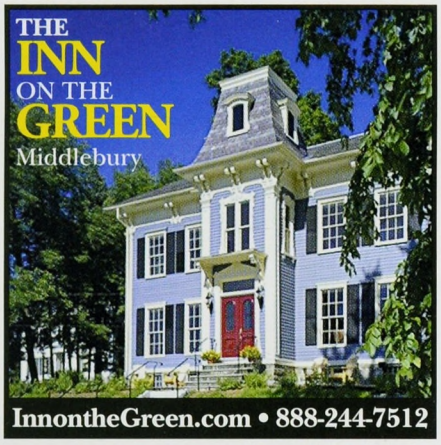
research on oral histories. I must say it is a truly *phenomenal* series. I quickly listened to every single profile. It is absolutely amazing that every single person featured in this series has such an incredible story to tell. The students come from such different backgrounds, and their stories are so fundamentally different, but each is so mind opening, inspiring, and truly beautiful.

If I were applying to college again now, Middlebury would be at the top of my list—why wouldn't I want to go to a school so full of such extraordinary people? This series is also a fantastic way for people to connect with others and discover what their peers can teach them about this wonderful world we live in, which is, to me, the essence of oral history. Thank you so much for the wonderful experience of reading this part of your magazine.

Alexandra Daly
Via e-mail



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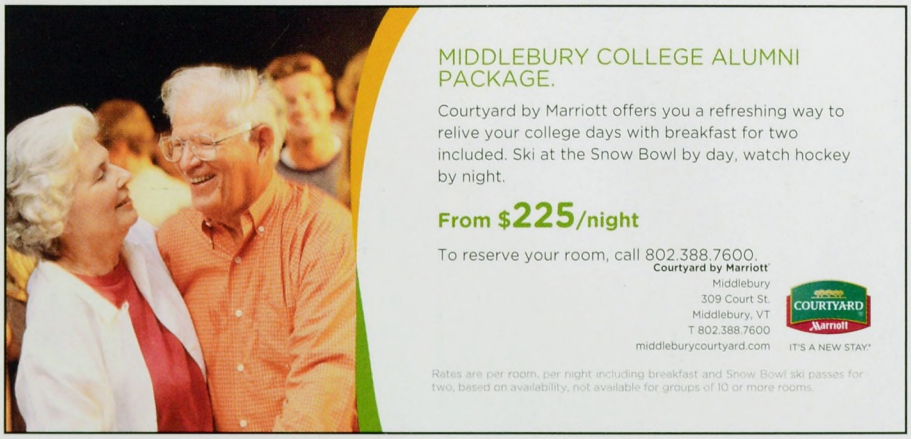
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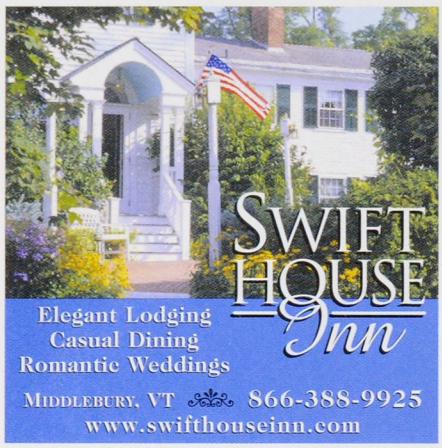

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Bugged by "Berry"

I JUST WATCHED THE VIDEO on the digital magazine that gives a tour of campus trees ("Tree Tour") and enjoyed it, but it grated on me a bit that the narrator pronounces the name of the College "Middle-*berry*." I refer to my alma mater as "Middle-*burry*."

We have this disparity in my home state of Connecticut, too. More and more people—generally younger ones—refer to Water-*berry* and Dan-*berry* instead of Water-*burry* and Dan-*burry*. Young news broadcasters, inevitably from out of state, can be counted on to use the "berry" pronunciation.

"Bury" comes from the Old English word for town. The German "burg" is related. So, I vote for Middle-*burry*! (brrrr!) Is there a College- or town-approved pronunciation?

James S. Rugen '74
Windsor, Connecticut

Editors' Note
We don't know of any officially recommended pronunciation. What is heard both in town and on-campus, more often than not, is the pronunciation that you disagree with: Middle-berry.

The Golden Ticket

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED that going on a tour of a college is like *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory?* Each prospective student is allowed to bring one representative from his or her family. Without a doubt, there is always one student who wants to know everything there is to know about the food plan; meet our Augustus Gloop. Then there is the chatty know-it-all, eager-to-impress the patient tour guide about his or her previous accomplishments. That's today's version of Veruca Salt. In the same group is the tech-savvy youngster desperate to learn about what the college has to offer in the computer lab. Mike Teavee, anyone? And amid this motley crew is

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downtown Middlebury

the average, down-to-earth sweetheart, genuinely impressed with the school and a bit intimidated by the Augustuses, Verucas, Mikeys, and the strange girl who changed into a blueberry. That would be none other than Charlie Bucket. This analogy would be incomplete without the evil Arthur Slugworth and the insidious Vermicious Knids—the other NESCAC recruiters? And what about everyone's favorite Oompa-Loompas? Where do they fit into this analogy? Why they're the kids walking around smiling at the tour, waving as they sing "Come Here, Come Here. Doo Pa De Doo."

They're all searching for that elusive golden ticket—I mean—acceptance letter. And if they are lucky enough to get into Middlebury? Well they won the best golden ticket of all. Better than chocolate.

Meaghan McCormick Martin '03
Cambridge, Massachusetts

The writer is an English teacher at Newton South High School and a former admissions tour guide at Middlebury.

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Deborah Holmes "Strength of the Hills" print

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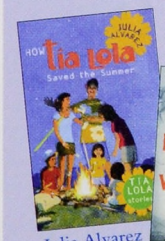
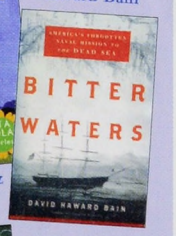
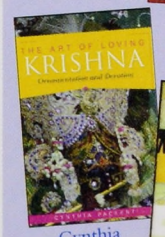
A SAMPLING FROM THE SHELVES
Middlebury's Own
Authors and Musicians



Julia Alvarez

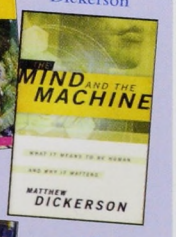
David Haward Bain





Cynthia Packert

Matthew Dickerson



Mamajamas

Paradiddles

Elsewhere in the Mailbag (Digital and otherwise)

FEEDBACK COMES IN ALL FORMS—letters in snail mail, e-mails, word on the street, and, of course, social media. Shortly after the summer issue hit mailboxes, a flurry of tweets relating to Kevin Redmon's profile of author Jeffry Lindsay '75 ("This Man Has Created A Monster") caught our attention. One of our favorites was from @ausimosa who wrote "How did I NOT know that #JeffryLindsay, fellow #Middlebury alum, wrote #Dexter!? Thank you @Middleburymag!" We knew we had a fan when @ausimosa later tweeted: "Off to walk the dogs, then pilates! Will finish reading my #Midd magazine when I get back." Now that's what we like to hear!

Not as enjoyable was this e-mail that arrived in August: "Please remove me from the mailing list for this publication. I am continually incensed by the waste represented by unsolicited junk mail. This magazine goes into the recycling unread." Ouch.

Of course, our spirits can't be kept down for long. We were thrilled to learn that a pair of design competitions bestowed honors on our recent work including an award of merit from the Society of Illustrators for Emiliano Ponzi's cover illustration for the spring 2010 issue ("Arms Control") and three awards from the University and College Designer Association: design excellence, magazine editorial spread, for "Can the Louisiana Coast Be Saved?" (design direction by Pamela Fogg, design by Carey

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Middlebury

Bass '99, photography by Bridget Besaw, illustration by Hadley Hooper); design excellence, magazine cover, for "Saving Detroit" (design direction by Pamela Fogg, design by Carey Bass '99, photography by Ron Seymour); and design excellence, magazine editorial spread, "Stranger in a Strange Land" (design by Pamela Fogg, photography by Max S. Gerber, illustration by Yinglei Zhang).

Letters Policy

LETTERS ADDRESSING TOPICS DISCUSSED in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: *Middlebury Magazine*, 152 College Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or middmag@middlebury.edu.

Middlebury Bookstore

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

The 2010 Admissions Poster

Els Van Woert '05 grew up in New York and Vermont and currently resides in Helena, Montana. Els has a deep love for the Green Mountains and big sky of Montana. This original work (*Chipman Hill Morning*, 30"x20" collage from recycled and repurposed papers) is on display in Emma Willard.

This high-quality, unframed print is available for purchase by calling the College Bookstore at 802.443.5334 or online at http://bookstore.middlebury.edu
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Also available from Els are these conservation cards which the originals are hand cut and crafted from recycled magazine paper and 15% of the profits are donated to conservation efforts in Vermont. $2.50 each (plus S&H)

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Middlebury

JULIA ALVAREZ '71 ("Thank You, Mr. Neuberger," p. 88) is a writer in residence at Middlebury and the author of many books, including *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents* and *In the Time of the Butterflies.*

ELISABETH CREAN ("Punk Scene," p. 48) is a writer in Grand Isle, Vermont.

BRIAN EULE ("One Life to Live," p. 36) is a freelance writer and the author of *Match Day: One Day and One Dramatic Year in the Lives of Three New Doctors.*

MAX S. GERBER ("One Life to Live," p. 36) is a photographer based in Los Angeles. His work can be viewed at www.msgphoto.com.

ARTHUR GIRON ("Thank You, Mr. Neuberger," p. 88) is an illustrator who has contributed to a number of publications, including *Mother Jones*, *Spin*, and *Rolling Stone*. His work can be found at www.aegillustrations.com.

JAY HEINRICHS '77 ("Can Wit Be Taught?" p. 30) is the author of *Word Hero: A Fiendishly Clever Guide to Crafting the Lines That Get Laughs, Go Viral, and Live Forever.*

JODY HEWGILL ("Day Eight, 1:15 AM, South Tower, Ground Zero," p. 42) is an award-winning illustrator in Toronto. Among her clients: *Entertainment Weekly*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *Time*. Her work can be found at www.jodyhewgill.com.

NIGEL HOLMES ("Self-Reliance" infographic, p. 20–21) creates graphics, illustrations, and animations at Explanation Graphics. His work can be viewed at www.nigelholmes.com.

JOSIE JAMMET ("Knowing Oscar," p. 18) is an illustrator in London. She has contributed to a number of magazines, including *Esquire*, *New York*, and *Rolling Stone*.

DENNIS O'BRIEN (Review, p. 22) was a professor of philosophy and dean of the College at Middlebury until 1976.

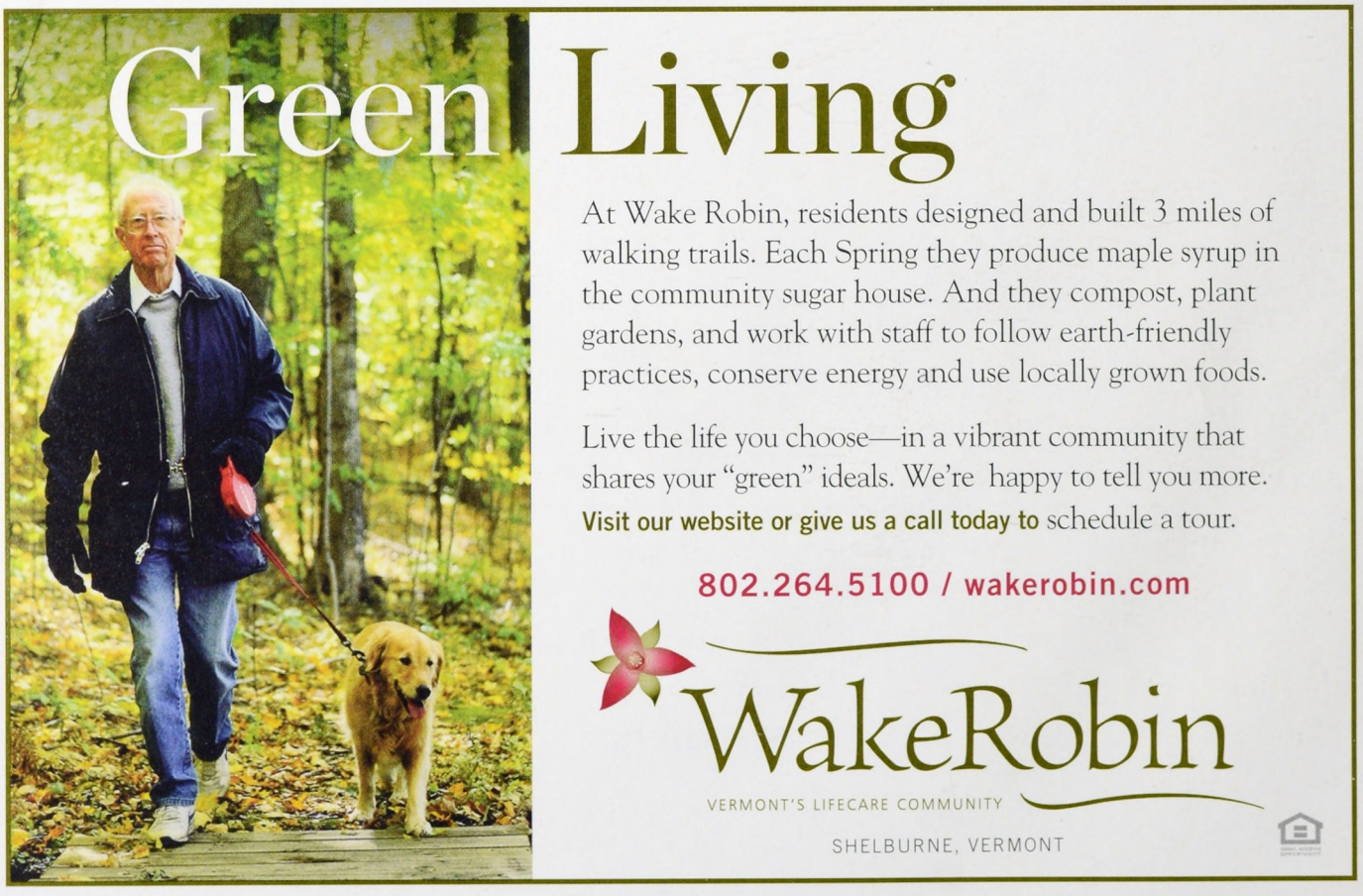
MICHAEL RICCI, MA ENGLISH '92 ("Day Eight, 1:15 AM, South Tower, Ground Zero," p. 42) is a writer and a union iron worker.

JORDAN SILVERMAN ("For Pete's Sake," p. 46) is a photographer in Burlington, Vermont.

BRETT SIMISON ("Can Wit Be Taught?" p. 30) is a photographer in Middlebury. His work can be found at www.brettsimison.com.

SARAH TUFF '95 ("For Pete's Sake," p. 46) is a writer based in Burlington, Vermont.

NATE WILLIAMS ("Can Wit Be Taught?" p. 30) is an award-winning illustrator, who has contributed to the likes of *Runner's World*, *Slate*, and *Wired*. His work can be found at www.n8w.com.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18 COLLEGE STREET
24 ACADEMIC MATTERS
26 OLD CHAPEL
28 NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Uphill Downhill

REMEMBRANCES
Each year, the Middlebury College Republicans honor those killed in the terrorist attacks of 9/11 by placing a flag for every victim on the quad outside the Davis Family Library.
Photograph by Brett Simison

Knowing Oscar

EACH AUGUST, all first-year students receive the same book by mail. They're asked to read and reflect on it before they arrive in September. Once here, they get together in groups or 15 or so—all from the same residential Commons—to discuss some of the issues the book raised.

This year's "common reading" was *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by award-winning author Junot Díaz, a native of the Dominican Republic who was raised in New Jersey. As Dean of the College Shirley M. Collado said, "The book is a particularly rich exploration of identity from more than one lens, and illustrates the challenges and rewards inherent in building community with others who may or may not see the world similarly. These are key issues for first-years, and they are central to many of the themes we covered throughout orientation. And we were so fortunate to have Junot coming in person to speak with the students."

Díaz visited the campus on September 27 to meet with first-year students and also to give a public reading that evening in Mead Chapel. *Middlebury Magazine* spoke with Díaz about having his book become a conversational catalyst for young people beginning a new chapter of their lives.

"Books, like any act of art, do not work for everyone. But when a book does work, when it engages them, when it reaches into them, it can be a source of great learning, both about the world and about the readers themselves. A book cannot prepare you for the stupendousness of the world—for meeting 600 people from 70 countries—but it can accompany you on that journey; it can provide insight and solace and discomfort; it can start debates and arguments; it can unsettle and give peace; it can be 'a friend of your mind,' to quote Toni Morrison, and a friend of the mind is not a bad thing to have at the start of any great journey. Hopefully my book was that friend for a few of the students.

"Poor Oscar is bullied endlessly. Ours is a society of hierarchies and competition, and in a world like that there are always going to be losers. There have to be. Oscar is the kind of kid that, no matter what the regime, seems to always end up at the bottom. It's less about Oscar, I would argue, and more about how little we like to be reminded of difference, vulnerability, strangeness.

"Even in the face of death, though, Oscar could never be anyone but himself. He never wore any masks; even at the point of his destruction he was true to himself, and given the damage that masks do to people in this book, I would argue that's a good thing. But hey, that's just me.

"Oscar's family curse, the *fuku*, is about the role that history has in shaping our lives, even when we don't know the history that has its hands around our neck. It's also a way to address that most American of all preoccupations: whether one is blessed by the universe (which Americans seem to believe is the condition of our country) or whether one is cursed by the universe (which is something that Americans fear our country might in fact be).

"In the end, this is a novel. There are no single take-away messages. A novel attempts to duplicate the complexity of the world. Politicians and religions have messages. Corporations have messages. Novels seek to confront readers with the world and with their own humanity and in that confrontation hopefully raise the kind of questions that you can spend your whole life answering."

ILLUSTRATION BY JOSIE JAMMET

From the Archives *Object #264: Freshman Beanie from 1944, donated by Thomas M. Johnson '48*

In the '40s, it was customary for all incoming freshman to don a beanie such as this whenever they left their dorm rooms. This was just one of many "frosh" rules, along with the requirement to properly greet all upperclassmen, behave oneself when in town, and walk only on the paths around campus—no cutting across the grass! The rules were enforced by members of the Blue Key, an honor society of upperclassmen, and according to a note from Mr. Johnson that accompanied the beanie, "Blue Key members sometimes raided dorms in the middle of the night with fraternity paddles, called out all frosh, and requested recitation of the rules. Those failing to provide correct answers, preceded by 'Sir,' had a paddle applied to their derrieres."

Go Figure

THE CLASS OF 2015

Total Applicants
8,533

Total Admitted
1,519 (18%)

Arriving in September
607

Arriving in February
100

International Students
61

States Represented
43

Countries Represented
33

Extreme Unicyclists
1

Name That Professor Every year, all new students must take first-year seminars. Not only are these classes a key part of Middlebury's liberal arts experience, but they're also a great opportunity for senior faculty to branch out of their departmental areas and teach subjects of a more personal interest. The seminar topics and faculty change from year to year, so the choices are always fresh and interesting. Can you match the class with the professor?

1. Love and Death
2. Love and Friendship
3. Beast in the Jungle
4. Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?
5. Discovering Infinity
6. Science and Science Fiction
7. Everything A Cappella

A. Rick Bunt, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry
B. Carolyn Craven, visiting assistant professor of economics
C. Jeff Buettner, assistant professor of music
D. Murray Dry, professor of political science
E. Michael Olinick, professor of mathematics
F. Paul Monod, professor of history
G. Rob Cohen, professor of English and American literatures

Answers: 1. F, 2. D, 3. G, 4. B, 5. E, 6. A, 7. C

PHOTOGRAPH BY TAD MERRICK

Observed

■ **As part of its 25th anniversary celebration,** the Middlebury-affiliated Off-Broadway theatre company, PTP/NYC, was in town in September to present two shows: *Territories* by Steven Dykes, directed by PTP/NYC cofounder and Middlebury Professor of Theatre Cheryl Faraone; and *Spatter Pattern* by Neal Bell, directed by PTP/NYC cofounder Jim Petosa. Many who saw the plays also stayed for post-performance discussions with the cast. ■ **The annual Hirschfield International Film Series** kicked off the season with an award-winning stunner, *Restrepo*. Dana Auditorium was packed for both screenings of Sebastian Junger and Tim Hetherington's documentary about fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan. Hetherington's death last April in Libya made the film all the more poignant. *Potiche*, with Catherine Deneuve and Gérard Depardieu, brought a little levity in October, and upcoming films include *Exit Through the Gift Shop*, *Animal Kingdom*, and *Biutiful*. For more listings see go.middlebury.edu/hirschfield. ■ **New this year** in academic opportunities, undergraduate students can now choose to major in Arabic and comparative literature, as well as minor in Hebrew. They can also pursue several independent scholar majors—in linguistics, environmental education, environmental justice, and peace and justice studies.

continued

While this issue of the magazine was going to press, we learned that Self-Reliance had captured fourth place (out of 19 teams) in the 2011 Solar Decathlon. We will be chronicling this story—from the evolution of an idea to the stunning achievements in D.C.—in the next issue.

85+
students (more than 25 different majors)

The house was entirely conceived, designed, and constructed by these students.

1 loft ladder

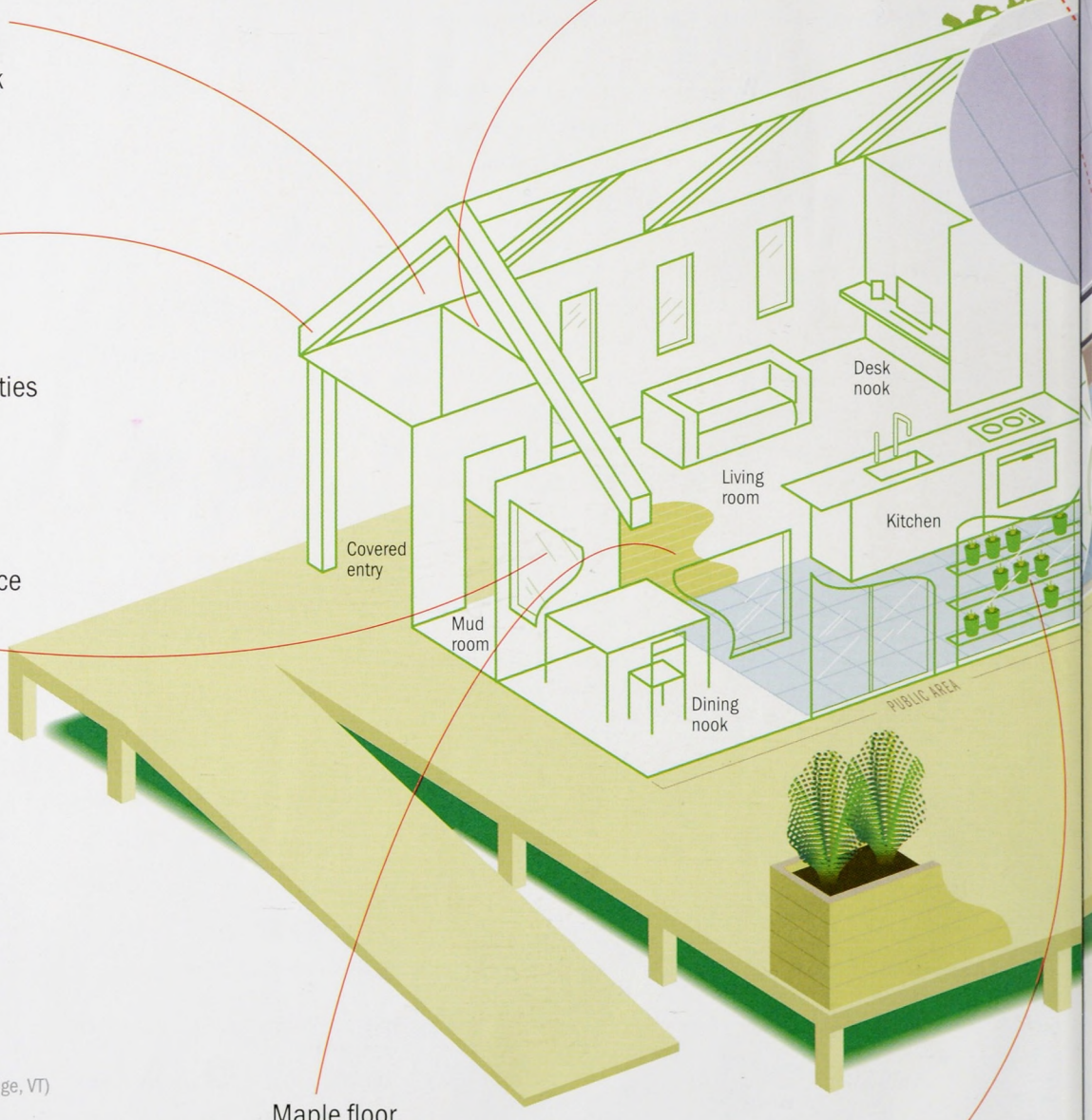
10,198
pounds of dense-pack cellulose insulation (83% recycled content)

8
locally harvested and milled hemlock cross-ties

14
super high-performance triple-glazed windows from Germany

75
pounds of nails

4
bags of sheep wool
(from Sheep Farm Road, Weybridge, VT)

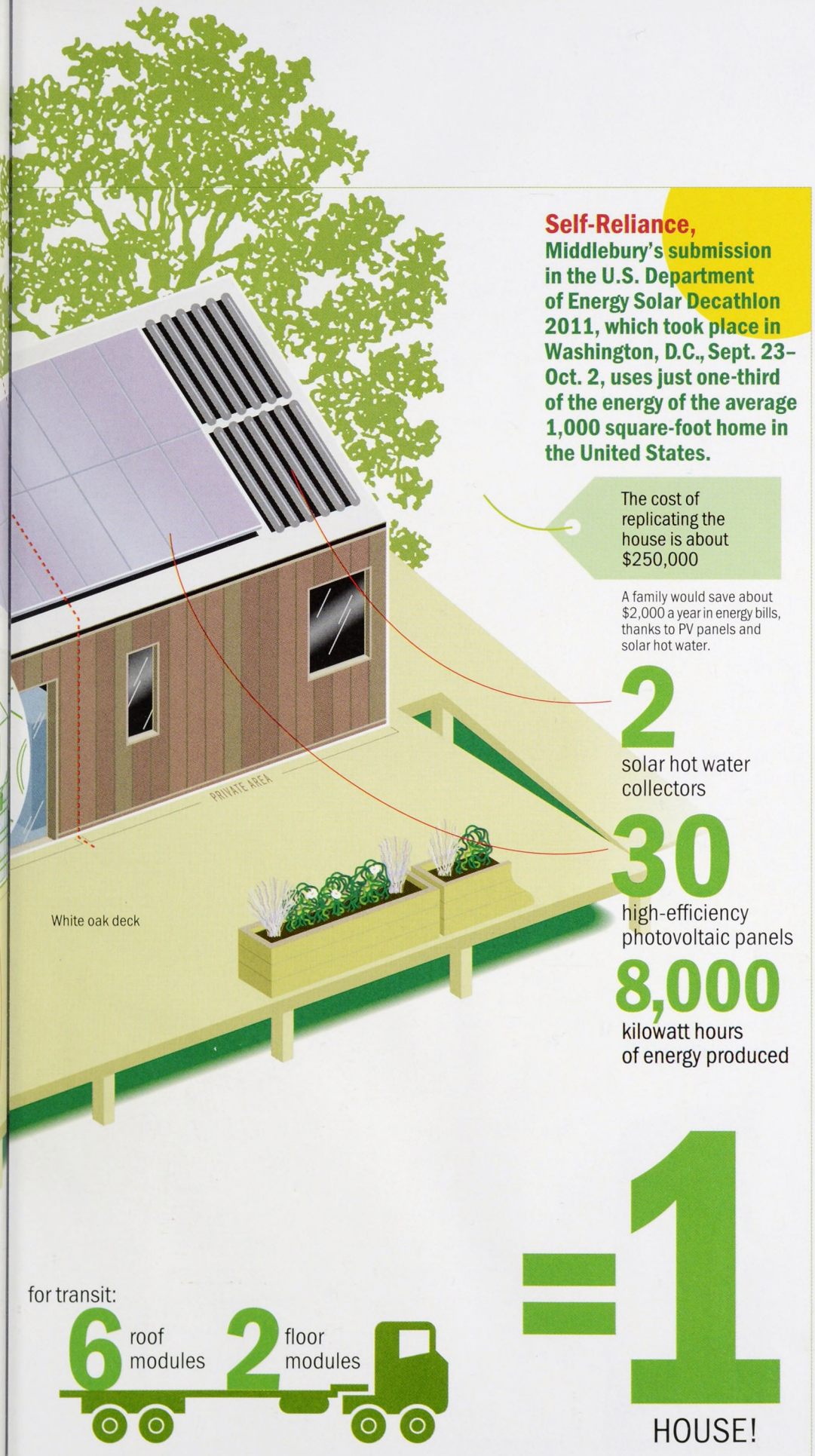


1,000
square feet

Maple floor harvested from
12
trees in last stages of life in College Forest, locally milled in Bristol, VT

8
greenhouse-wall shelves

ILLUSTRATION BY NIGEL HOLMES



Self-Reliance,
Middlebury's submission in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2011, which took place in Washington, D.C., Sept. 23–Oct. 2, uses just one-third of the energy of the average 1,000 square-foot home in the United States.

The cost of replicating the house is about $250,000

A family would save about $2,000 a year in energy bills, thanks to PV panels and solar hot water.

2 solar hot water collectors

30 high-efficiency photovoltaic panels

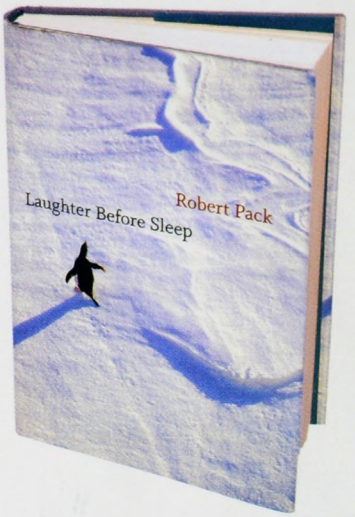
8,000 kilowatt hours of energy produced

for transit:

6 roof modules **2** floor modules

=1 HOUSE!

■ **In mid-August,** while protesting the Keystone Tar Sands Pipeline plan at the White House, 150 people—including Middlebury's Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben and Visiting Lecturer in English and American Literatures Chris Shaw—were arrested. All charges were eventually dropped, and the two were released after more than 50 hours in a Washington, D.C., jail. Needless to say, they are more committed than ever to the cause. ■ **This summer, the College successfully relocated the music library** from the Mahaney Center for the Arts to the Davis Family Library, and moved the Department of History of Art and Architecture's art history program into the vacated music library space. The collective moves are intended to increase visibility and awareness of the music library's comprehensive resources, while strengthening curricular ties between HARC and the Middlebury Museum of Art. ■ **Middlebury hired two new coaches.** Bob Hansen will take the lead on the men's tennis program, and Bob Rueppel will oversee the men's and women's swimming programs, as well as the Natatorium. Hansen served as head men's coach at the University of California, Santa Cruz for the past 30 years. And Rueppel comes to Middlebury from Franklin and Marshall College, where he served as the men's and women's coach.



Laughter Before Sleep
by Robert Pack (University of Chicago, 2011)
Reviewed by Dennis O'Brien

ROBERT PACK HAS PUBLISHED 20 VOLUMES OF POETRY and five books of criticism spanning works from Shakespeare to Wallace Stevens. After a distinguished run as a Middlebury professor and director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, he could well have rested on his balladic laurels but chose instead to teach honors students at the University of Montana, while living in a log house in the far boonies with his wife, Patty. He's pushing 80—and pushing back, as the title of his most recent collection of poems suggests: *Laughter Before Sleep* (2011).

Though the elk have replaced deer as local fauna, Pack's change of scenery has not altered his role as a poet of nature. His irrepressible wit has also survived the westward migration.

Nature and laughter are not, however, always happy companions; *Laughter Before Sleep* is suffused with a tension between nature's givens and the poet's gift, resulting in lyrics of poignancy and resignation touched off, in the end, by Pack's wit and will to affirmation.

The collection is set forth under the headings "Seasons," "Cherishing," "Lamenting," and "Laughter." The first poem in "Seasons" is familiar Pack territory, and as befits a poet in later life amid our troubled times, it is "Mid-May and still the maples/bear no leaves. . . lately nothing looks benign to me as once natural change/appeared acceptable." Nature is alive in the "circle and swoop" of the red-tailed hawk, but Nature also knows death: "No, no, there's nothing after death!/There's no requited love. . . There is no hope in Nature's recurring cycle?...I have no winter consolation now/To offer you, no summer comfort to bestow. . . /Oh, swirling sorrow is the medium/in which we dwell. . . "

And then, "before blank seasonless oblivion/Begins for you and me, for everyone," what should a poet do but "Cherish," when loss is present and persistent?

Thus leads to "Lamenting," as Pack remembers family scenes gone. He recalls his 99-year-old mother, blind and dependent but still delighting in food "sweet or sour,/or salty, peppery, tongue curling tart." Lamenting is imagining they are together "inside the separating dark."

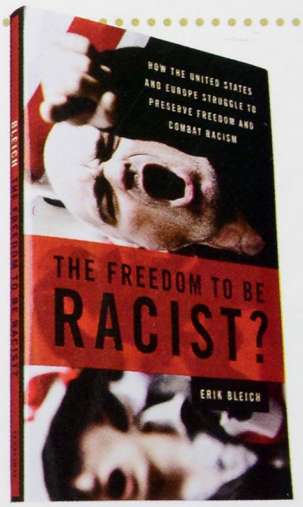
In "Laughter," Nature returns in comic persona. Instead of the swooping hawk, Pack celebrates "the male blue-footed booby" and the bird's "lollapalooza of libidinal display." Other poems detail Nature's more outlandish beings: penguins, elephants, skunks, and chimps, along with some of humankind's flamboyant flourishes: a "babble of bassoons . . . giggle of paired piccolos." Groucho Marx makes an appearance, as does Darwin's nose.

I hear Pack's deeper laughter from first to last in all his poems, in the very act of poetry. For all the death and lamentation, the final lesson is in the poem "Alive," in which the poet reflects on the "rise again and dip and dive" of that red-tailed hawk.

> *This is his living moment*
> *in which my life is also contained*
> *this is the moment I contain my life*
> *as if I were the willing author*
> *of my own design, as if the hawk's*
> *stark silhouette against the smooth sky*
> *were my original idea.*

To be alive is to become the poet, asserting the will to cherish and become "the willing author/of my own design."

A single poem follows the four sections, titled "Epilogue." The reader is treated to a rabbinic joke, which concludes that despite our deep wish for everlasting peace on earth we may "have to be content at last just telling/. . . jokes to strangers, making friends/whose laughter frolics in the lilting foam." The poet plays a joke on Nature's grim changes. Laughter after silence fulfils the promise of that final line. It is a book to be cherished in all seasons.



Excerpt The trend toward punishing racial discrimination and hate crime illustrates the overarching pattern of antiracist values slowly encroaching upon specific freedoms. This trend has been more rapid in some places than in others, and there have been high-profile holdouts. But there is an emerging consensus within and among liberal democracies—embedded from the ground up, ranging from civil society groups through international organizations—that outlawing racial discrimination and penalizing racist motives in hate crimes are acceptable and desirable steps. If you are a racist, freedom in a liberal democracy does not always mean you can act according to your deep-seated beliefs.
—From *The Freedom to Be Racist?: How the United States and Europe Struggle to Preserve Freedom and Combat Racism* by Erik Bleich, Middlebury College professor of political science (Oxford University Press, 2011)

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TAD MERRICK

Quote/Unquote

"That Middlebury students are seriously engaged in meaningful sustainability initiatives on campus that have a real impact definitely has an influence on prospective students and the College's profile."

—Nan Jenks-Jay, dean of environmental affairs, in an August 16 article in the New York Times *titled "More Colleges Adding 'Green' to School Colors."*

Five Minutes with . . . JJ Boggs

For a lot of undergraduate staff and faculty, summer can be a time to relax and regroup. For JJ Boggs, it's anything but. As head honcho of orientation for all new students, she counts on July and August to bring some of her busiest days.

Making connections

Orientation is a time for new students to familiarize themselves with the community and begin to discover their place in it. This year we helped the first-years explore the campus and downtown so they could see some of the incredible opportunities they'll have a chance to participate in during their four years here. We also built in specific times for dialogue between new students, older students, faculty, and staff.

Old favorites

Once again this year, we hosted one of our favorite Orientation activities: *Voices of the Class* is a student production based on a selection of first-years' admissions essays and responses to prompts such as "tell us something about yourself that people would never guess just by looking at you." It's always a wild and wonderful time for everyone involved. Plus there's Midd Uncensored, a diversity and community-building activity, and Thursday Night Live, in which the new class shares stories, poems, and other talents. This year we also brought back an oldie but goodie, the Commons Olympics!

New traditions

Gus Jordan, executive director of Health and Counseling Services, and Natasha Chang, dean of Brainerd Commons, introduced a bystander-intervention program this year in the hopes of providing students with the tools and confidence they need to intervene when they encounter challenging situations. A small team of faculty, staff, and students also presented a program called "Living Deliberately: Finding Balance" to guide students in making informed choices for finding healthy balance amid all the opportunities and demands they'll encounter.

Strange questions

What are the exact dimensions of my closet? Is there laundry in every dorm? What kind of pants are best for winter? We get all sorts of calls from anxious students and parents throughout the summer! We do our best to answer them all.

Team effort

Orientation takes an enormous amount of time and work, and I am lucky to have so many talented colleagues across the campus who contribute their time and elbow grease to both the planning and execution. I've also had the pleasure of collaborating with some outstanding interns, who work tirelessly for three months to help create a meaningful and engaging orientation. Many of the 2015 successes can be attributed to this year's interns, Brittany Gendron '12 and Chris de la Cruz '13. I couldn't have done it without them.

Photograph by Brett Simison

His Story

Historians help us learn who lies beneath that grave on the Middlebury golf course.

By Robert Keren

Six days before Christmas in 1783, a tree fell in the forest near Middlebury village and barely made a sound. All across the region, settlers were clearing land and putting up firewood for the winter, but the fall of this particular tree was different. It took the life of a Revolutionary War veteran named William Douglass who was out cutting wood with his two young sons. We may never know what went wrong that day.

Douglass was 48 years old when he died. He had been an ensign in the 12th Regiment of the Vermont Militia headquartered at Bennington. (Ensigns were commissioned officers who carried the colors.) We know that Douglass served in Captain John Stillwell's company for 16 days in the fall of 1781, that he traveled 40 miles, and was paid four pounds, one shilling, and four pence for his service. Whether Douglass served at other times during the Revolution and what his company did, where they went, and whether they ever encountered the British is not known. All that remains is his payroll card from the war and his grave site—the grave on the Middlebury College golf course.

Why is there such an incomplete picture of William Douglass? He died before the first U.S. census in 1790. He didn't live long enough to document his service for a Revolutionary War pension. His death predates the existence of the first churches in Cornwall and Middlebury where early records were kept. There were no newspapers in the region at the time. And fires in 1800 and 1814 destroyed most of the Revolutionary War documents in the custody of the War Department.

"Fire and floods, mold and neglect," says Amy Morsman, associate professor of history at Middlebury. "These are not good for historians. Primary source materials like original records are the building blocks of history. They are your absolute smoking gun in terms of historical research."

Without primary sources, a historian has little option but to dig deeper. "Pursuing the past, running down loose ends, taking paths that turn out to be dead ends and then turning around and digging some more—this is what makes history interesting for students," Morsman says. "When they have to go out and do that research themselves, when they have to go up to a real person and ask questions, and it's not all at the point-and-click of a mouse, that's when they realize that they can be the person to unlock a mystery."

Douglass was one of the first settlers of Cornwall,

ONE "S" OR TWO?
Readers may note that the name on the gravestone doesn't exactly match the name in the story. Spelling of surnames was inconsistent in Douglass's day.

Photograph by Brendan Mahoney '11

Vermont, and yet his place in history is obscure. And except for the fact that his tombstone lies alongside the 11th tee on the golf course, he could have been forgotten.

The town clerk spins around in her chair and says, "It's missing. Vital Records Book Number One for the Town of Cornwall is gone and has been since the early 1960s when some researcher borrowed it"—or so the story goes—"and never brought it back." With that lament, another lead into the life and death of William Douglass has vanished. The book recorded the births, deaths, marriages, and town reports of Cornwall, from 1763 to 1855.

From secondary sources written in the 19th century, we learn that Douglass was from the town of Cornwall, Connecticut, where both of his parents were teachers. He arrived in Vermont in 1774, along with a handful of others from Litchfield County who staked their claim to land along the western bank of Otter Creek. Like most of the region's pioneers, they endured life in the rugged river valley until the British retook control of Fort Ticonderoga in 1777, and it was no longer safe to stay.

> **"Fire and floods, mold and neglect . . . these are not good for historians."**

Douglass was preparing for the return of his wife and daughter when he met his demise in 1783. He is not on the roster of veterans recognized by either the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution. And while there is a plaque in Cornwall that honors 78 Revolutionary War veterans from the region, his name is not among them. There is no road or creek or hill that bears his name. So unless you hit an errant tee shot, you would never see his grave site or know a thing about him. You could call him Vermont's forgotten patriot.

"In researching William Douglass, you have to look for every piece of documentary evidence out there, like journals, diaries, letters, speeches, sermons, wills, deeds, and genealogies," says William Hart, associate professor of American history at Middlebury.

"And sometimes, when the vital records are missing, we have to rely upon the works of early historians, since we don't work in isolation. We are always building on the findings of the credible historians who have gone before us. And," Hart says pausing, "you always have his grave site." It always comes back to the grave site. Originally a marker of wood or rock, it was replaced with a marble tombstone, probably by his son James around 1810, that reads:

Mr. William Douglas, born June 22, 1735, was killed instantly by the fall of a tree, December 19, 1783.

Here life and all its pleasures end,
Here mourners wander, read and weep;
Soon each succeeds his fallen friend,
And in the same cold earth must sleep.

"That sure is dark," Hart offers. "And the icon carved on top"—a ribbon tied into a bow cascading down into chains—"is a mystery. In the 18th century we tend to see death masks that are dark and frowning. Later, into the 19th century, God was thought to be more benevolent. A more hopeful outlook was on the rise, and we see willow trees sprouting out of urns, a symbol of rebirth. But that verse about sleeping in the cold earth . . . that's pretty bleak, isn't it?"

Hart studies Native Americans, African Americans, and working-class colonials—he terms much of the work he does as "giving voice to the voiceless."

"I am often asked, how much is knowable about these people? If they didn't leave any written records, how will we ever know their stories? That's when I say it's too important to tell their stories so we have to adopt a different kind of methodology to do so, one that is more multidisciplinary, and we piece the story together that way.

"We borrow tools used by scholars in other disciplines," Hart adds. "For example, we use material culture from anthropology and archaeology, textual analysis from literary studies, quantitative and statistical analysis from economics, maps from geography. Most historians today would say we must look beyond the written record."

Or as Amy Morsman would advise, dig deeper. That's why Paul Carnahan, librarian for the Vermont Historical Society, is on the phone. "It looks like your William Douglass may have also served in the French and Indian War in 1759." Really? "Yes, and he was the company clerk, too." That makes sense; we know Douglass could read and write. "You might want to come over here and take a look at these records."

Piece by piece a more complete picture of William Douglass is taking shape. It's as if the sound of that tree falling in the forest is getting louder all the time.

Coming of Age After 9/11

The president's 2011 Convocation address.

By President Ronald D. Liebowitz

Welcome. It is my pleasure, on behalf of the faculty, staff, trustees, and your fellow Middlebury students, to extend a warm welcome to you, the Class of 2015. I hope you enjoyed orientation, which I know was the product of a lot of work on the part of so many.

Your introduction last week to Middlebury and to Vermont came at a difficult time, when the remnants of Hurricane Irene caused massive flooding, which destroyed roads, bridges, and, unfortunately, many homes. True to Vermont's tradition and character, however, the country has seen how Vermonters rise to the occasion, roll up their sleeves when faced with such adversity, and tackle the difficult situations they face without pointing fingers or feeling sorry for themselves. Likewise, many in the state have seen the character of Middlebury College students as early returning students volunteered here in town and in neighboring communities, some as far as the New Hampshire border. They have made a huge difference in the lives of many they don't even know. Please join me in thanking our students for helping so many here in town and across the state. This kind of caring and acting, as I tell many, is the hallmark of our campus culture, and I hope that you, all of you in the Class of 2015, will join and strengthen that culture not only in times of crisis, but in your everyday doings at the College.

Today, of course, is September 11, and it is the 10th anniversary of the largest single attack on United States soil—a terrorist attack the consequences from which our society has yet to recover. This address is not about my experiences with 9/11—though I was on a Manhattan crosstown bus on West 66th Street at the time—but I can't help making the connection between the depth and breadth of caring that permeated the streets, subways, cabs, parks, and public spaces in New York City on the one hand, and the caring we see today in so many flood-ravaged communities throughout Vermont and the aspirations we have for this academic community you have just joined, on the other. I will come back to September 11 later, but first a few thoughts on this new community you officially join today.

It is rare to hear or read stories about Vermont without some mention of the weather, and for good reason. The unpredictable and variable weather that seems to throw challenges our way across all the seasons is one of the things that create the kind of environment in which friendships and personal relationships are more important, more meaningful, and more long lasting than in most other settings. There are few distractions in this beautiful, relatively remote, part of New England, which means students here rely heavily on one another for their social, intellectual, creative, and academic sustenance and energy—more heavily, I would say, than on most college campuses. Though one of the great and sometimes unnoticed benefits of being at a place like Middlebury is the opportunity for students to get involved and make a difference in the town, in Addison County, and even in Montpelier, our state capital; living and learning at Middlebury revolves around being part of this academic community. It is a community filled with remarkably talented students, dedicated staff, and the very best faculty you can find, so long as you are ready and willing to be challenged and to take advantage of their talents and high expectations. Those high expectations are rooted in what we already

Photograph by Dennis Curran

know about you . . . what you accomplished before you arrived.

I know you will take advantage of many of the academic opportunities before you, and may even feel frustrated when you can't delve deeply enough into many areas of the curriculum. But not trying to "do it all" is a good thing. Doing things in balance is a challenge for all of us, especially for many of you who have been doing so many things for a good part of your lives. But in order to get the most out of your time here, I pass along the following advice to go along with all that you have already heard since your arrival earlier this week:

1. No matter how much you wish to extend it, the day is 24 hours long. The workload per course at Middlebury is demanding, and so when you think about all you would like to do, make sure to leave enough time to cover all you will be asked to do in four—not one, two, or three—classes.

2. View your time here as a way to study both deeply and broadly. That is the advantage and indeed the purpose of coming to a liberal arts college. Unlike what you would do at a technical or preprofessional school, we require you to select a major, but also to take courses across the curriculum, selecting classes in disciplines you might never have taken before or even knew existed.

3. Resist the idea that more is better—for example that two majors are better than one—and instead take advantage of the strength of our faculty and curriculum by taking many courses in the arts, humanities, languages, the social sciences, and natural sciences. You will graduate four years from now better educated and just as prepared to go on for a PhD or to pursue any career you wish as you would have been had you completed multiple majors. More importantly, by taking courses broadly across the curriculum, chances are you will meet a faculty member who will excite you by material you never would have encountered, and perhaps change your life. Science majors might find reading Aeschylus' *Oresteia* or John Stuart Mill's *On Liberty* or doing landscape painting central to the rest of their lives, just as literature majors might discover a passion and lifelong interest in ecology, molecular biology, or nonproliferation.

4. As you think about the next four years, try to think about striking a balance in what you study, in what you do outside your academic work, and in what you do for a social life. Contrary to how it might seem from afar, the transition to college is never seamless for anybody. Finding a significant connection to something here and finding it early—an athletics team, an a cappella group, a literary club, artists and entrepreneurs at the Old Stone Mill, or to any of the College's 140+ student organizations—will provide the kind of social entrée that will make the transition here easier and richer. This takes initiative, but we make it relatively easy for you: I suggest you attend the College's activities fair, where you can meet members of many student organizations and learn about what each does and how to get involved. This year's fair will take place Friday, September 16, at 4:30 on Hepburn Road—in front of Proctor and right behind the Chapel.

That single event, and the consequences that followed, created a "worldview" fault line between those who came of age and were educated pre-9/11 and those who came of age after.

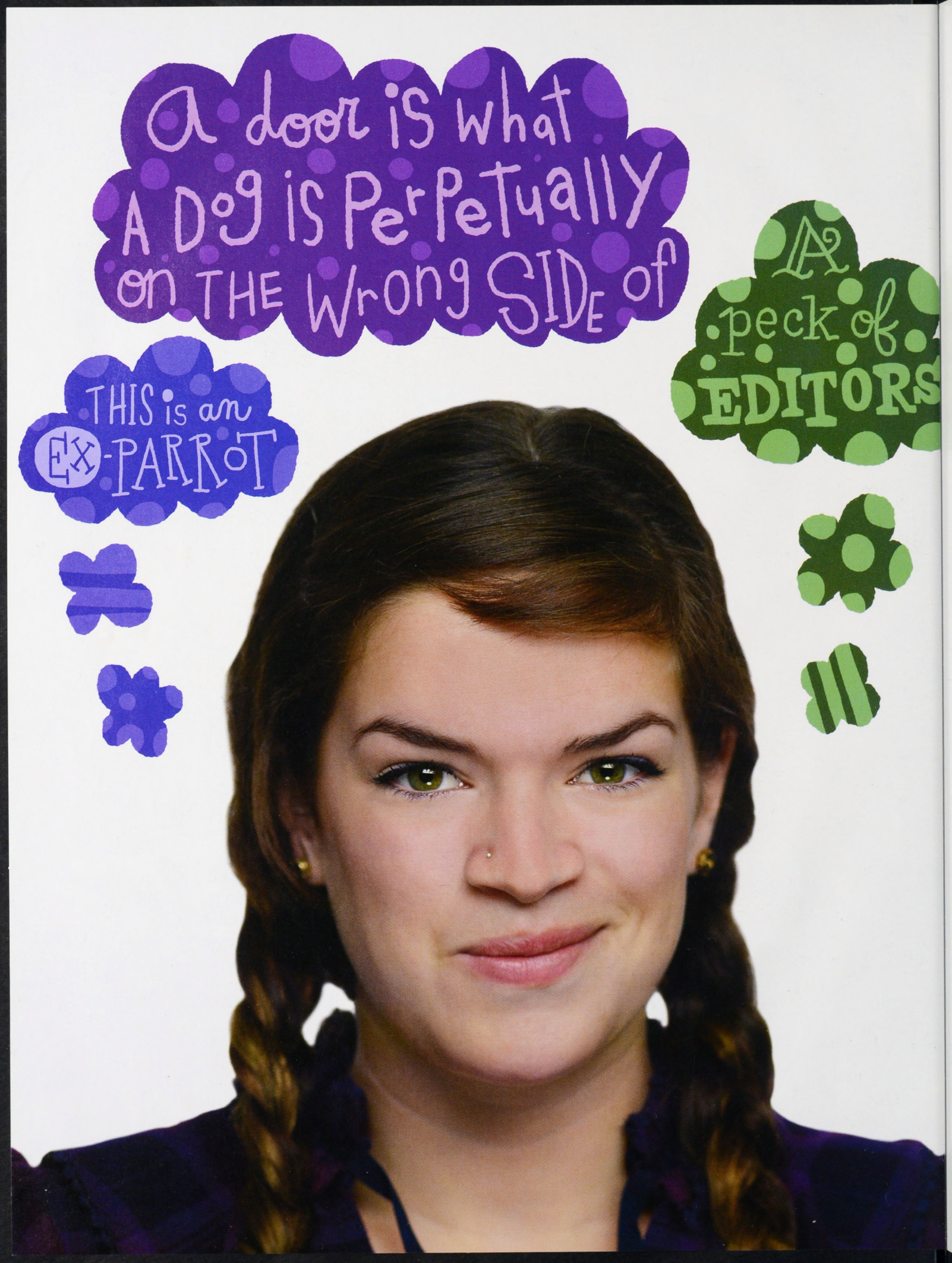
BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT ADVICE I might give to you as you begin your college career is related to the profound changes that September 11, 2001, had on our country. It has to do with how you study not only what will be new to you, but also how you study what might very well be most familiar to you—what you learned in elementary school and secondary school, this time subjected to rigorous and critical analysis that is the essence of a liberal arts education at a place like Middlebury.

Whether you pick up the *Economist, Newsweek, Time, Foreign Affairs*, or any publication this week, you will read over and over that September 11, 2001, was the day the United States lost its innocence. Just about all of you in today's entering class were 7, 8, or 9 years old at the time, and I am sure each of you has your own vivid memories of that day. Yet, that single event, and the consequences that followed, created a "worldview" fault line between those who came of age and were educated pre-9/11 and those who came of age after.

Pre-9/11ers, a cohort that includes our entire faculty (at least I hope so), grew up and were educated in a world shaped by American supremacy, some would say hegemony. It was a world where first geography, by virtue of the two great oceans on either side of the country, and then advanced technology, which allowed for unequalled military capacity, including missile defense systems, that

Continued on page 84

ON STAGE
Stephanie Janssen '99, Alex Draper '88, and Megan Byrne ' 96.5 rehearse a scene from the Potomac Theatre Project's *a light gathering of dust*. Photograph by Brett Simison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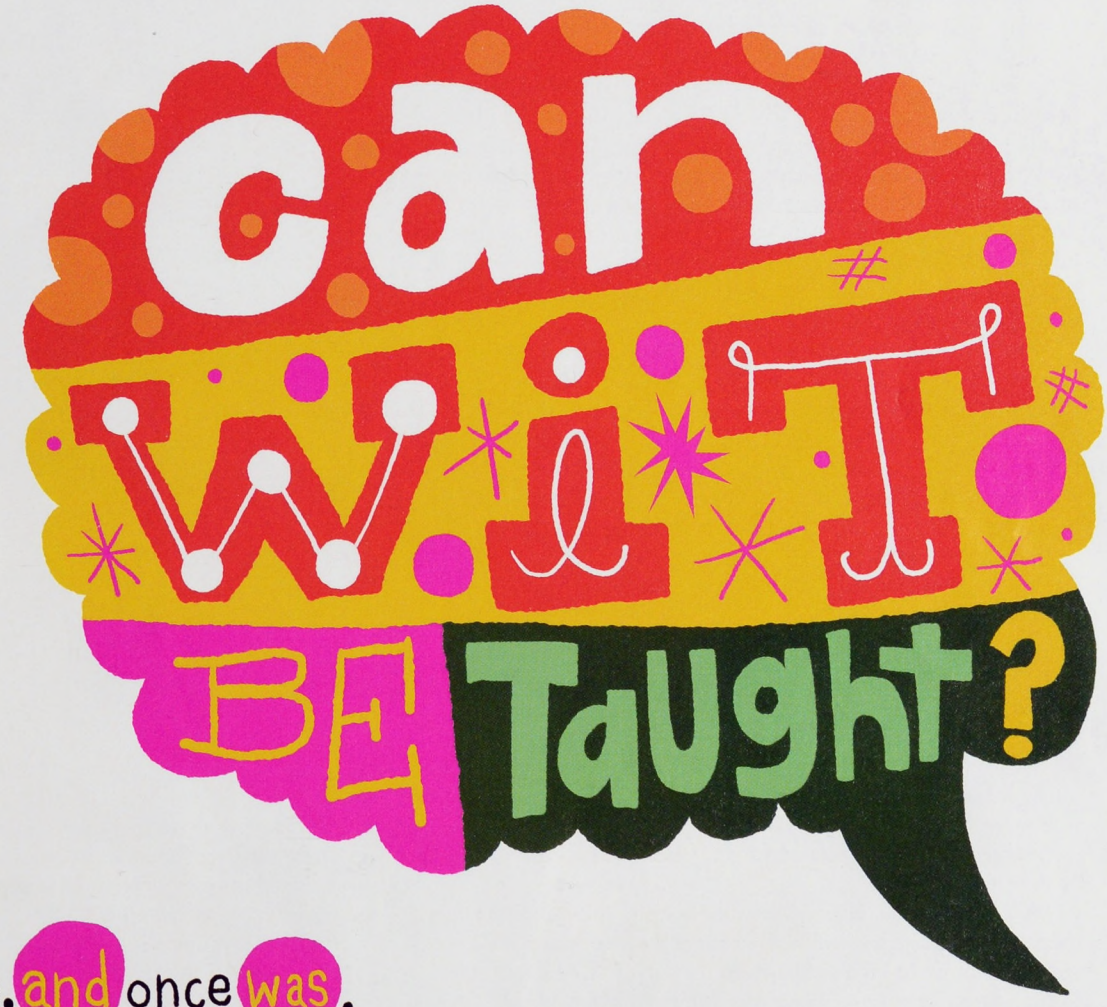


*It can be, and once was.

An advocate argues for its academic revival.

By Jay Heinrichs '77
Illustrations by Nate Williams Photography by Brett Simison
Wit Modeling by Ele Woods '11.5

My nickname that freshman year in Battell South, in the fall of 1973, was Quote Boy. The hockey players called me that; they seemed to have a nickname for everybody. While I would have preferred a cooler moniker, I could have done worse. A classmate's upset stomach had earned him the name Booter for the next four years. Besides, my nickname fit me. Every evening after dinner I switched on my new electric typewriter, typed a quotation onto an index card, and taped the card outside our door. The quotes were a way for my roommate, Ken Reeves '77, and me to meet people; and they celebrated my passion for *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, my most precious possession.

That book marked the epitome of literary culture, I thought. Knowing nothing of liberal education, I focused not so much on the acquisition of knowledge as on its expression. I was like a beginning weightlifter who thought a man's fitness was determined by the size of his biceps. Which isn't such a bad thing. Muscles are a powerful motivator for a young man; similarly, wit—the intellectual equivalent of six-pack abs—helped move me to get an education. For me, *Bartlett's*, with its 1,750 elegantly thin, wit-crammed pages, was my version of a muscle magazine. Having saved up my summer-job money to buy the book for the breathtaking sum of $15, I did what any fan and wannabe does: I put my favorites on display.

The words in *Bartlett's* gave off the hoary whiff of immortality. One of the cards I put up bore a quote from the Hindu Upanishads that was almost 3,000 years old: "The gods love the obscure and hate the obvious." Whatever that meant, I felt jealous. Imagine making anything that lasts three millennia!

I taped up the work of other immortals, like Ogden Nash: "A door is what a dog is perpetually on the wrong side of."

And Mark Twain: "When angry, count four. When very angry, swear."

And Cornelia Otis Skinner: "Woman's virtue is man's greatest invention."

Each time I taped up a card, I wondered how that person did it. Were there tricks? Exercises that would someday earn me a place in *Bartlett's* myself? And so began a decades-long search for the secrets behind the art of wit.

As it happens, they aren't really secrets at all. The immortals in my quotation book weren't hoarding hidden codes. The techniques were never secrets. Our forebears knew them as the tools of wit.

Wit is the honed edge of the intellect, the sharp end of the mental stick. Wit has to do with rhetorical style—the choice and order of words. If a style amuses, or surprises, or expresses something in an original way, then you have wit. And, yes, clever reader, it helps to have something original to express. You can't earn your way into *Bartlett's* with silly little inanities. (Oh, wait, you can—witness Nash. But Nash's inanities are *brilliantly* silly.)

The ancients compared style with fine clothes. Great clothes dress up our imperfect bodies and make them irresistible—up to a point, that is. (The term comes from *stylus*, the crude pen the Greeks used to scratch out their poems and plays, and didn't come to refer to the fashion industry until long after the ancients had worn out the analogy.)

Occasionally, style can even cover up a hideous body of prose. And, in the hands of a highly skilled advertiser or politician, style can even bend reality for an ingenuous audience, making the absurd seem natural, rhetorically transforming strip malls into Mayberryesque "Main Street," modern-day Bertie Woosters into "job creators," and entitlement programs into a single lazy "welfare queen."

Welfare queens aren't funny, you say; the phrase is offensive and manipulative. Well, wit isn't all about humor. It's about that sharp edge. Young people, all of us, should learn wit if only for the inoculation, to recognize when we're being manipulated.

But that prompts the question: Can wit actually be taught?

"Well, yes and no," Timothy Billings replied to me in an e-mail recently. A professor of English and American literatures at Middlebury, Billings contended that it depends on what one means by the term. "Wit is a notoriously slippery fish, engulfing a whole range of ideas—from cleverness to raw intelligence, to common sense, to instinct, and even to composure," he wrote. "True wit is something extraordinary: a gift endowed, not a commodity earned; something that distinguishes the likes of Shakespeare, John Donne, Alexander Pope, Oscar Wilde, Winston Churchill, and Dorothy Parker from the rest of us. In that case the answer is no.

"But," he continued, "you're obviously provoking us. You're asking, 'Can the unteachable be taught?' 'Can linguistic genius be taught?' Or, more modestly, 'Can rhetorical prowess or persuasion be taught?' In that sense, yes, I think wit can be taught. Or at least something very, very close to it."

We've all known witty Middlebury professors: Murray Dry, whose Supreme Court humor is so dry—humor seasoned by frequent use of the double-negative figure called ***litotes***—it would shame a martini; or the legendary American studies professor Horace Beck, who fired off semi-rhyming character descriptions ("... whose face would gag a maggot") beneath a paintbrush mustache. In my day, Philip Gura, who taught at Middlebury before going on to a stellar career as an author and expert on transcendentalism, acted out imaginary scenarios (called ***prosopopoeia*** in former days) of Thoreau and Bronson trying to pay their omnibus fare with poetic "ejaculations." Paul Cubeta saw every Shakespeare play as a trope of the Watergate hearings we were all watching on TV. In his e-mail exchange with me, Timothy Billings exhibited a playful intimacy with language that seems to lie at wit's very heart. And the wonderful John Elder ...

You can hear Elder, among other Middlebury professors, if you google Middlebury Moth-Up. An offshoot of the national Moth storytelling events, the Middlebury version shows wit in full flower on campus. Open to any member of the community, the Moth-Up has storytellers spinning true yarns without notes for five to 10 minutes a pop. Online you'll find Professor Elder describe getting a rental car stuck on the top of the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania—a masterpiece of understatement. He and his wife found themselves in a place where the Masai particularly resented outsiders, with their tiny car somehow perched on top of a boulder with all four wheels off the ground.

"At this point," he says drolly, "I began to get discouraged. ... As a husband of about four months I was thinking, you know, 'I'm really not doing very well.' As a provider, as a protector, all those vestigial roles, which you just sort of assume—you don't want to act them out, because they're so retrograde, but you assume that you're capable of them."

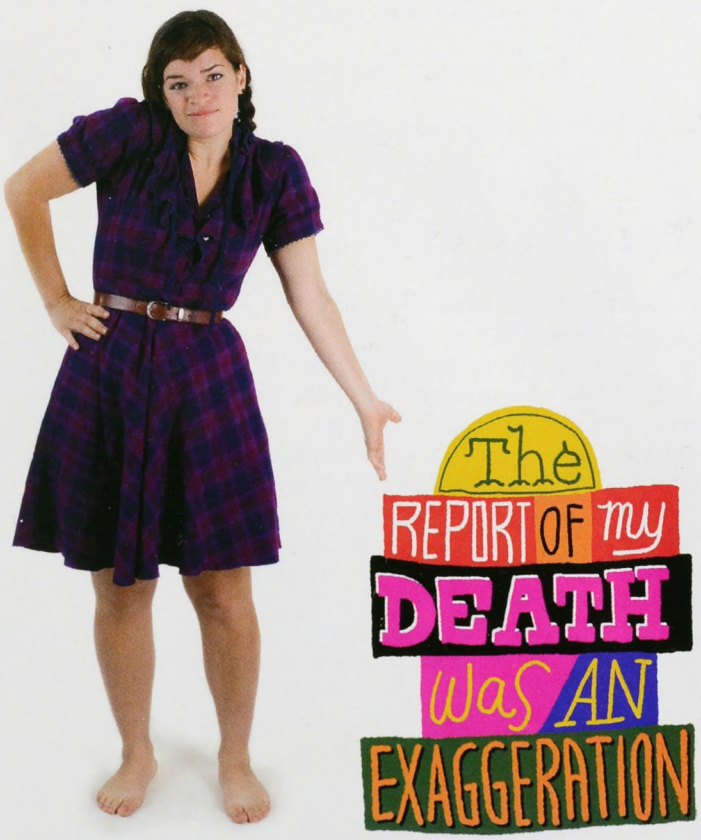
And then a band of Masai showed up. Elder: "They were just sort of deadpan, like we weren't what they were expecting, what they wanted to see." Even if you don't know John Elder, you can picture the lanky, soft-spoken professor staring apologetically at these tall, spear-carrying warriors. Just from his tone, from his practiced use of understatement.

English professor Dan Brayton also appears in the Moth-Up, showing himself to be an adept of figures like repetition and cataloging. Last year he told a hilariously appalling story about his father driving him to a fistfight with a high school bully. Here are a couple sentences from that story:

"When I was eight my father got me a pair of boxing gloves, which was great for me. But he also got himself a pair of boxing gloves."

"When I got to high school, I was dealing with a lot of issues ... I was lifting weights, and doing karate, and [pause] playing the violin."

Oh, I could go on. But you already know that wit fills the quiver of every good lecturer. Students certainly learn from its demonstration; but demonstration is not the same as teaching. In times past, wit was not just on display in academe. It was part of the curriculum.



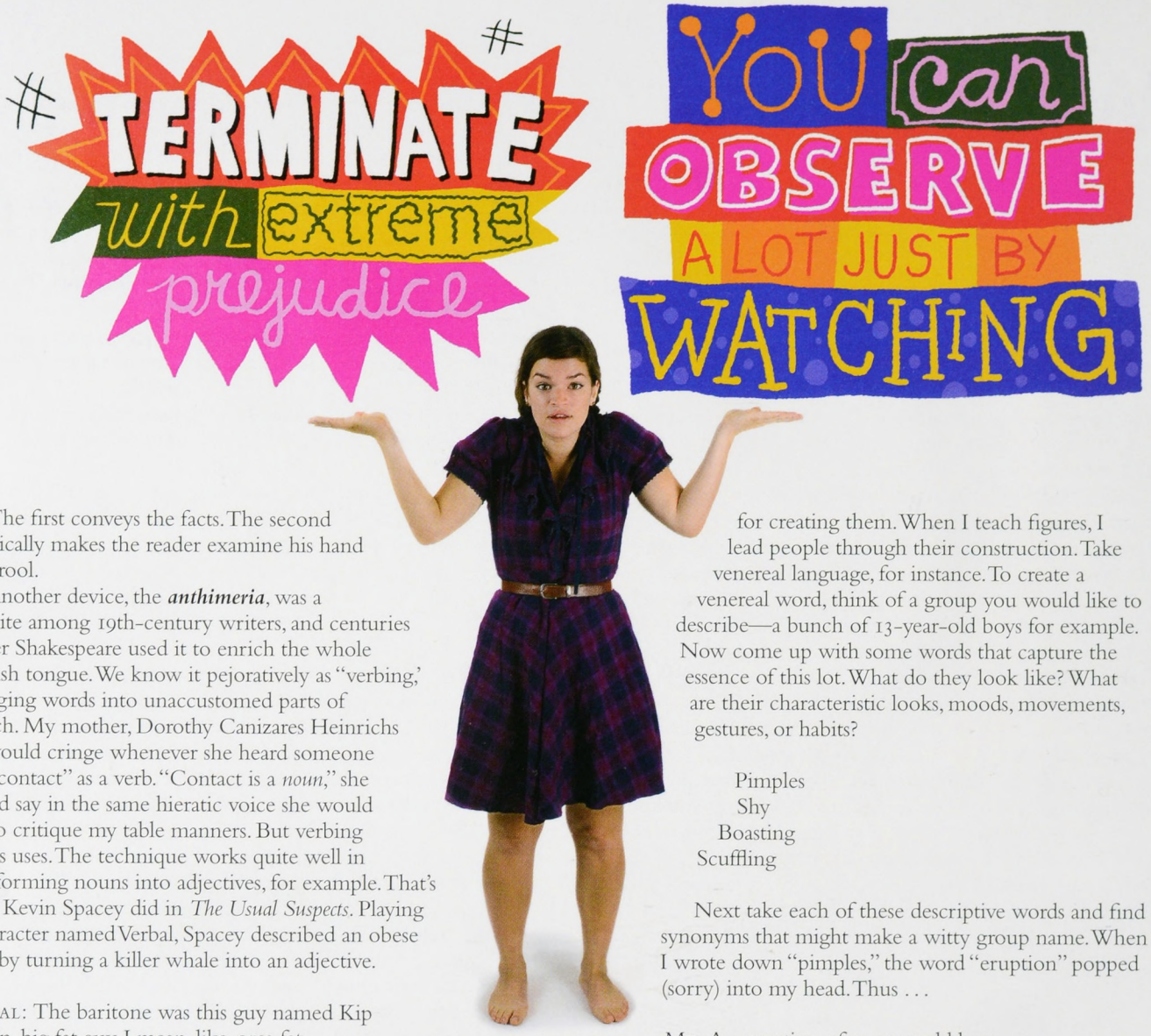
Writer David McCullough says that when he was researching his latest book, *The Greater Journey*, he was struck by the quality of the writing he found in his subjects' letters and journals. The book tells the stories of 19th-century Americans who found inspiration in Paris. Only one of McCullough's subjects, James Fenimore Cooper, wrote for a living. The others simply wrote, beautifully. Of course, these were some of the most brilliant members of their generation, and people wrote a great deal more back then. But what McCullough discovered was also the product of a formal education that, up until the 20th century, taught the tools for memorable expression, tools that originated as figures and tropes.

I use the word "tools" intentionally. Most of our English backgrounds today had to do with learning the rules of grammar and what Strunk and White misleadingly call "style." These rules are important; a firm grasp of grammar lets a student communicate at any level of society, so long as she also learns the rules and lexicon of the hip-hop and business worlds as well. But up until the 20th century, our forebears went beyond the grammar they learned in grammar school, graduating from rules to tools.

What do I mean by tools? Just what are these figures and tropes? Let's look at a few.

Word sounds compose many of the simplest figures. You're familiar with the Greek word ***onomatopoeia***, which means "made-up name." It's a great way to bring life to storytelling—a characteristic rhetoricians call ***enargia***. Consider it one of the special effects of rhetoric, making an account appear live before the audience's very eyes. The teenage narrator in David Mitchell's *Black Swan Green* makes you listen to his story even when you're reading it. Iron gates don't simply close; they *clang* shut. A teacher's chalk *slaps and slides* across the blackboard. Young lovers' teeth *clunk* when they kiss. Compare these two sentences, one without the sound effects and the other chock-full of enargia.

1. The dogs in the pound shook their chains and excitedly smelled my outstretched hand.
2. The dogs in the pound jingled and snuffled around my outstretched hand.



The first conveys the facts. The second practically makes the reader examine his hand for drool.

Another device, the ***anthimeria***, was a favorite among 19th-century writers, and centuries earlier Shakespeare used it to enrich the whole English tongue. We know it pejoratively as "verbing," changing words into unaccustomed parts of speech. My mother, Dorothy Canizares Heinrichs '47, would cringe whenever she heard someone use "contact" as a verb. "Contact is a *noun*," she would say in the same hieratic voice she would use to critique my table manners. But verbing has its uses. The technique works quite well in transforming nouns into adjectives, for example. That's what Kevin Spacey did in *The Usual Suspects*. Playing a character named Verbal, Spacey described an obese man by turning a killer whale into an adjective.

VERBAL: The baritone was this guy named Kip Diskin, big fat guy, I mean, like, orca fat.

Verbing offers novel ways to describe people, especially if you make your verbing as specific as possible; not "whale fat" but "orca fat." Again, compare these sentences.

1. He had a killer smile.
2. He had a Doberman smile.

The anthimeria lets you perform a sort of rhetorical Photoshopping, grafting the Doberman's about-to-bite smile onto the person's face. More effective, don't you think?

Another device that wits employed in earlier centuries combined a figure of speech with a parlor game. Called ***venereal language***, it takes its name from *venery*, the archaic term for hunting and wildlife management. Venereal language names groups of animals. The geese you see on your local golf course compose a "flock," of course. When they fly together, they form a "skein." A group of whales is a "pod" or "gam." A group of crows is a "murder," of owls, a "parliament."

You can't teach wit simply by describing figures or groups, though. Samuel Butler once condemned rhetoricians whose "rules teach but the naming of his tools." A proper education in witcraft—the craft of wit, I mean—doesn't merely expose students to these tools and their names. It offers the means for creating them. When I teach figures, I lead people through their construction. Take venereal language, for instance. To create a venereal word, think of a group you would like to describe—a bunch of 13-year-old boys for example. Now come up with some words that capture the essence of this lot. What do they look like? What are their characteristic looks, moods, movements, gestures, or habits?

Pimples
Shy
Boasting
Scuffling

Next take each of these descriptive words and find synonyms that might make a witty group name. When I wrote down "pimples," the word "eruption" popped (sorry) into my head. Thus . . .

ME: An eruption of 13-year-old boys.

Not very nice, or pleasant for that matter. Now what would you do with "shy"? Keep in mind that you need a noun, which means converting the adjectives on your list.

YOU: A bashfulness of boys.

Sweet! I like the alliteration (another figure, of course). Now do something with "boasting" or a synonym thereof. A hyperbole of 13-year-olds? Imagine what you can do with Democrats, Republicans, Libertarians (a moat?), Tea Partiers (a bag, cozy, or lemon?), radical environmentalists (a greenery?), or any other label-worthy group. Lovers of civil discourse may frown on the resulting cheap shots, but I personally find any genuine wit refreshing. If you plan to insult me, do me the honor of insulting me wittily. Go ahead and sermonize, but don't sound like a drone of preachers. Sound like a wag of wits, a badinage or banter of bards, a sling of wags.

Oh, there are so many more figures I could deploy with you. There's the ***repeat changer*** (*antistasis*, technically), which sets a word in two different contexts. You'll find Derek Smalls using it in *This Is Spinal Tap* after a miniature Stonehenge set makes the band a laughingstock.

IAN FAITH: I really think you're just making much too big a thing out of it.
SMALLS: Making a big thing out of it would have been a good idea.

Then there's **synonymia**, another 19th-century favorite—and a fave of Monty Python as well, I might add. Witness John Cleese's classic elegy for a dead parrot.

CLEESE: It's not pinin'! It's passed on! This parrot is no more! It has ceased to be! It's expired and gone to meet its maker! This is a late parrot, it's a stiff! Bereft of life, it rests in peace! If you hadn't nailed it to the perch, it'd be pushing up the daisies! It's run down the curtain and joined the choir invisible! THIS IS AN EX-PARROT!

As you can tell, synonymia throws an embarrassment of riches at the audience in the form of multiple synonyms. To make your own synonymia, boil down your point to just one key word, then refer to your favorite thesaurus.

Synonyms also give you a chance to do a rhetorical head fake, leading the audience in one direction and then ending the sentence in another. Joseph Conrad, in his short story "The Return," uses similar descriptive words—more than he really has to—in order to set up a put-down.

CONRAD: She strode like a grenadier, was strong and upright like an obelisk, had a beautiful face, a candid brow, pure eyes, and not a thought of her own in her head.

SOME OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE DEVICES, however, don't merely rearrange words or come up with novel uses for them. Instead, they twist reality. Wrote Timothy Billings in our e-mail exchange: "True wit wreaks havoc with meaning, but it also wins. That's the danger and allure of it. It's an affront to logic, and the infantile pleasure of that, combined with its power, is immense."

A great reality-twister is the metaphor, the top dog of tropes. Like every other trope, the metaphor constitutes nonliteral language, words that aren't literally true but not necessarily a lie, either. Ogden Nash wittily objected to the practice: "Authors of all races, be they Greeks, Romans, Teutons, or Celts," he wrote, "can't seem just to say anything is the thing it is but have to go out of their way to say that it is like something else." Nash is guilty of the very sin he condemns; "go out of their way" is metaphorical, after all. Authors don't literally walk out of their way to say something. It's hard to get around the use of tropes.

Metaphors don't hold a monopoly on tropes. Our modern speech is full of them, including ***irony***, ***personification*** (metaphors don't literally hold monopolies), and ***hyperbole***, to name a few. Much more pervasive—if poorly understood—are the tropes ***metonymy*** and ***synecdoche***. Because they're so closely related, I combine them under the rubric of ***belonging trope***. This device takes a part, characteristic, or member of some larger group and makes it stand for the whole shebang. You hear this trope a great deal in politics: "Main Street" is a belonging trope. So is "Wall Street," for that matter, even when it refers to banking peccadilloes in Charlotte, North Carolina. Belonging tropes can enrich our language as well as screw up our politics.

Tropes bend reality to your will and serve as key ingredients to witty prose or conversation. They aren't just rhetorical tricks.

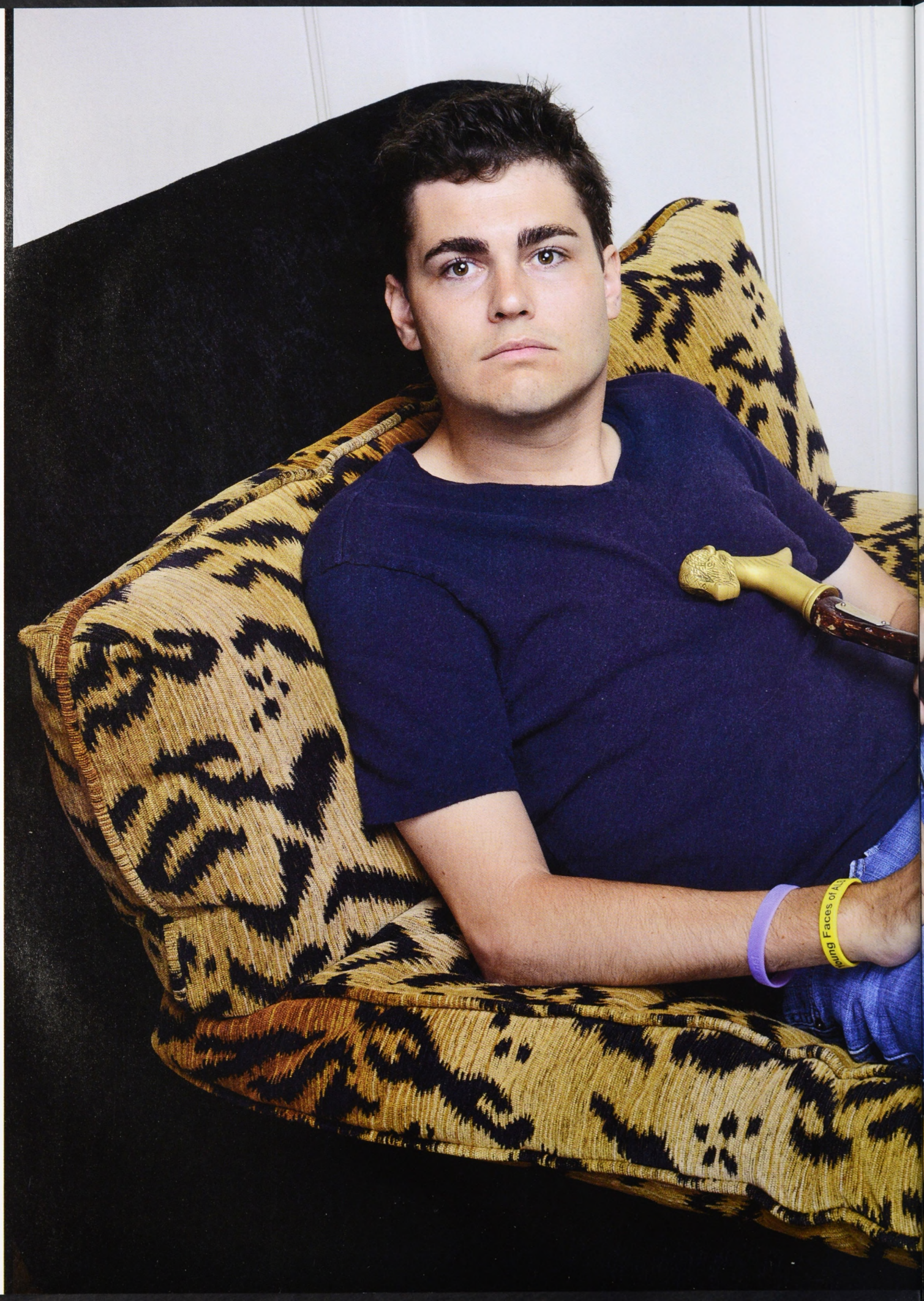
They help us understand the world around us by making connections between things. The world functions poorly without them. And they can also aid critical thinking. A key to wit is abstraction—boiling down a thought into its essential elements. Before you can express, you must find what I call the "pith," discovering the finest grains of thought, the atoms of the material you want to write.

My own classmates and I could have been far wittier, I'm sure. I would have settled for a less witty nickname, on the other hand—such as Mad Dog (a metaphor), or Crazy Legs (synecdoche!). But a wittier name, however insulting, would secretly have pleased me.

Being an optimist by nature, I have high hopes for the insults and education of future students. Here's to a witty generation.

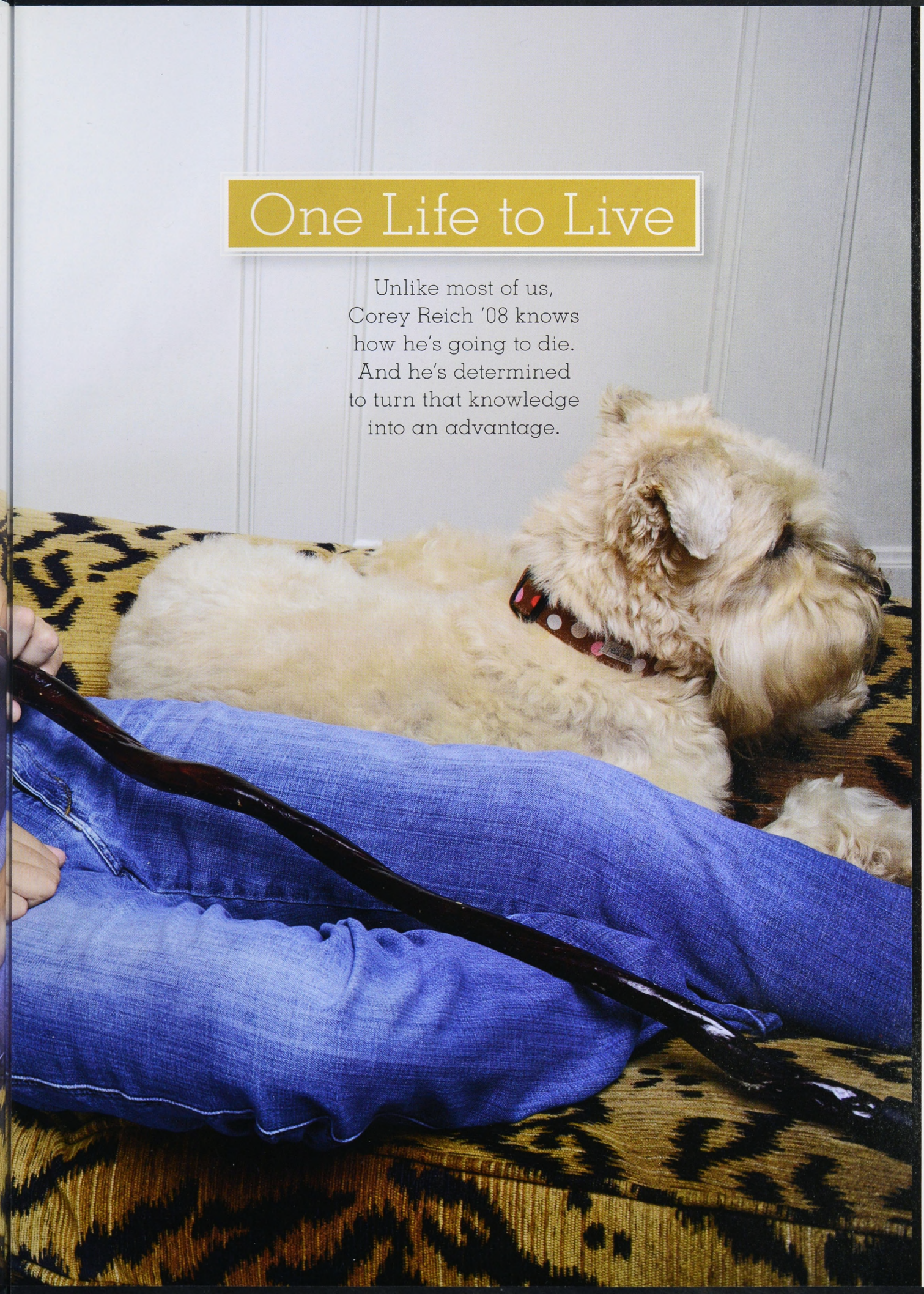
Jay Heinrichs's new book is Word Hero: A Fiendishly Clever Guide to Crafting the Lines That Get Laughs, Go Viral, and Live Forever.

About our wit model: Ele Woods '11.5 is an actress, an inveterate traveler, an aspiring improv comic, and an all-around hoot. You can meet Ele at go.middlebury.edu/ele.



One Life to Live

Unlike most of us, Corey Reich '08 knows how he's going to die. And he's determined to turn that knowledge into an advantage.



By Brian Eule
Photographs by Max S. Gerber

He came to the plate limping. Both legs were in bad shape, the reason he had been absent from the first game of the World Series until now. A few moments earlier he was not even in the dugout. He was in the clubhouse, getting treatment. Yet here he was, limping to the plate, the bottom of the ninth, two outs, down by one, the tying run on first, the chance to win the game in both the most absurd of manners and the most storybook, the kind of moment children dream about. He was a gruff-looking man from outside of Detroit, a Bob Seger song in uniform, and the potential Dodger antidote to the mighty Oakland Athletics. Until it was clear he was too hurt to play. Nobody expected him to make it to home plate and stare down one of the greatest closers in baseball. The sun had long set on Los Angeles, and beyond the fences of Dodger Stadium, red taillights lit up the darkness. But Kirk Gibson was still alive, even with two strikes against him, and when he sent that little white ball soaring into the night, he pumped his arm as he rounded the bases, collecting on his winning home run and the greatest sports moment in Los Angeles baseball history.

More than 20 years later, as a major league manager, it is still how he is remembered. And it is still the first thing Corey Reich '08 thinks of when they meet in another baseball stadium.

"You ruined my childhood," Corey says.

No doubt, there is a glimmer in Corey's eyes when he speaks this. There often is. And maybe because that glimmer now accompanies slower speech, an often-serene demeanor, and wide smile, it makes you feel as if you are in on any joke he tells. It's part of the warmth and humor his face conveys almost effortlessly, which seems to disarm any potentially uncomfortable encounter.

Gibson, of course, doesn't miss a beat.

"You must be from Oakland," he says.

Piedmont, actually; though for all intents and purposes you could consider it Oakland. It is a small Northern California enclave, bordered by Oakland on all sides, and only a 20-or-so-minute ride to the Oakland Coliseum. Piedmont is a tight-knit community of about ten thousand mostly affluent residents, where Corey lived with his family before Middlebury, where he lives with them now after, and where he serves as the assistant coach for the local high school tennis team on which he once played.

Sports have always been a big part of Corey's life. He is 25 years old, with dark curly hair, broad shoulders, and a generally athletic build that once saw him ski racing every winter, playing competitive tennis in high school, and being able to grab the rim of a 10-foot basketball hoop. He moved with ease. Which makes it all the more strange to him that he can remember the last time he actually ran. It was at Middlebury, after an intramural softball game, his friends dogging him, saying that he had gotten slower. So he challenged them to a sprint across a parking lot. He still beat some of them, but he wasn't running as well as he used to.

Now, he has trouble walking. His muscles are weak. He uses a cane sometimes, a wheelchair on other occasions, and knows a day will come when he will be entirely dependent on the chair. His speech is slurred, and his hands are curled so that he cannot write and needs help cutting his food. When he does walk, he moves slowly, unsteadily, holding on to things. Sometimes he falls. He says that his father told him he was always a good faller, with experience from when he was a little kid in youth soccer.

"I fall really well," Corey says.

And the smile and glimmer make his joke funny, even though it is not funny at all. It is terrifying. His friend Neil Rothenberg, Piedmont's head tennis coach, was there for a fall once, heard the sickening sound of Corey's head smacking the pavement outside the tennis courts where they coach together, and described it as nauseating.

Still, nobody is surprised by these occurrences. What's maybe surprising is that he is still walking at all. Or that he never complains. His mother will suddenly notice, some days, that he has begun compensating for the loss of yet another muscle or motor skill that the rest of us take for granted. Adapting but not announcing.

Four years ago, doctors told Corey Reich that he had a fatal disease in which the average lifespan after diagnosis is between two and five years.

He was 21 and about to begin his senior year in college.

It seems only appropriate to have begun this story with a baseball anecdote. After all, baseball is the main association people have with this disease—a disease some know of by its initials, but almost certainly not by its full name. Even Corey didn't know what the A stood for in the year after he was first diagnosed with ALS. More likely, people simply refer to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis as the disease belonging to the great Yankee hitter Lou Gehrig, a pillar of endurance who once held the record for most consecutive games played, until he could no longer play because of the onset of this debilitating disease and death sentence.

Gehrig's famous farewell to a silenced Yankee Stadium crowd came in 1939, and yet more than 70 years later there is still little that medicine can do to slow the progression of ALS. Corey has gotten used to explaining it and describing what is happening to his body. It's a neurological disease, a degeneration of the motor nerves in the brain and spinal cord. Eventually, he will no longer be able to control any of the voluntary muscle movement in his body. Involuntary muscles, like the heart, continue to function. But voluntary use of muscles, like walking or lifting limbs or talking or taking a deep breath—yes, he affirms, strange to think of that as voluntary, but it weakens the muscles that assist in breathing—will all eventually disappear. But the patient's cognitive abilities? Those often remain completely intact throughout the disease, until the moment the body can no longer breathe.

There are about 30,000 people with ALS in the United States at any time, and though the peak age at onset is in the late 50s or early 60s, cases do occur for people Corey's age. No matter the age, the disease is relentless. Half of the people with ALS die within 30 months of the onset of symptoms, and only 20 percent survive between five and ten years. In the vast majority of cases, including Corey's, the cause is unknown. Treatments are limited, almost nonexistent. Corey takes one medicine, twice a day, for which he says there is a chance it will extend his life by one month. Not many other options exist for ALS patients.

And there is no known cure.

Four years ago, doctors told Corey Reich that he had a fatal disease in which the average lifespan after diagnosis is between two and five years.

It should be said that there was never any question that Corey would return for his senior year at Middlebury. At least, not for him or his family. The doctors had wondered if this was really the best thing if he only had a couple years to live. But not returning was never an option in Corey's mind.

Middlebury had been a dream for Corey since he first set foot on campus as a prospective student. He liked that it was a smaller school. His high school, although public, only had about 800 students, and he loved that feeling of knowing everyone. The fact that the College was a great sports school was not lost on this skilled skier, either.

He was so sure that Middlebury was for him that he applied early decision. First he was deferred, then waitlisted. He reluctantly settled on Colby, even placing a Colby bumper sticker on his family's 1989 gold Toyota Land Cruiser. But one week later, when he heard that he had been accepted off Middlebury's waitlist, he was back at the car's bumper, this time with a razor, removing Colby's name and affixing the Middlebury sticker instead.

Looking back on his early days at college, he says he can identify times when there were indications that something was wrong with his body. Occasionally he'd find himself a little unsteady, spilling when carrying a glass. And the summer after his freshman year, during an internship with a dentist, he had occasional trouble picking up the instruments.

But it wasn't until he had returned from a semester abroad at Middlebury's school in Logroño, Spain, that clearer signs emerged. Seeing him for the first time in six months, Corey's friends noticed that his speech sounded a little more nasal, a little slurred. His muscles twitched at times. He noticed it took him longer to ski down the slopes than some of his friends. And during that softball game that year, his friends wondered why he was slow to run to first base.

"Why weren't you hustling?" they asked.

"I don't know," Corey said.

That summer, back in California, the changes were even more noticeable. He would drop things, fall when walking. He wasn't in pain, but his muscles began to twitch violently.

He went to his primary-care physician, who recommended he go to a neurologist.

"In the very beginning, I thought it could have been MS, and thought, 'that's horrible,'" his mother Wendy says of multiple sclerosis. A week later, that seemed like an optimistic thought.

There is no diagnostic test for ALS. It's a diagnosis of exclusion. So doctors ruled out multiple sclerosis, cystic fibrosis, Guillain-Barre syndrome, and HIV.

The neurologist thought it was ALS, but wanted Corey to get it checked at the California Pacific Medical Center's special ALS research and treatment center. There they did a few quick tests and watched Corey walk down the hall. Then they confirmed that it was indeed ALS.

"We were in shock," Ted, Corey's father, says. "We were ignorant, and probably [that] was good. We were somewhat in denial, not sure where the disease was going."

They also told Corey something that has stuck with him since. There was no known cause for his case. They said there was no point in dwelling on what could have caused this.

It was a very quiet dinner that night at the Reich household.

COREY'S SYMPTOMS PROGRESSED RELATIVELY SLOWLY, though there was no way to predict the speed of the course of the disease. His lung capacity—an important indicator for the progression of ALS—was still at 98 percent. And so, his friends flew out to California and they drove together, across the country, back to Middlebury for their senior year.

One day, back on campus, Corey got out of his car in a handicap spot. He didn't need a cane at that point and, though he couldn't run, he could still walk. Another student began to give him a hard time about parking there, until Corey explained.

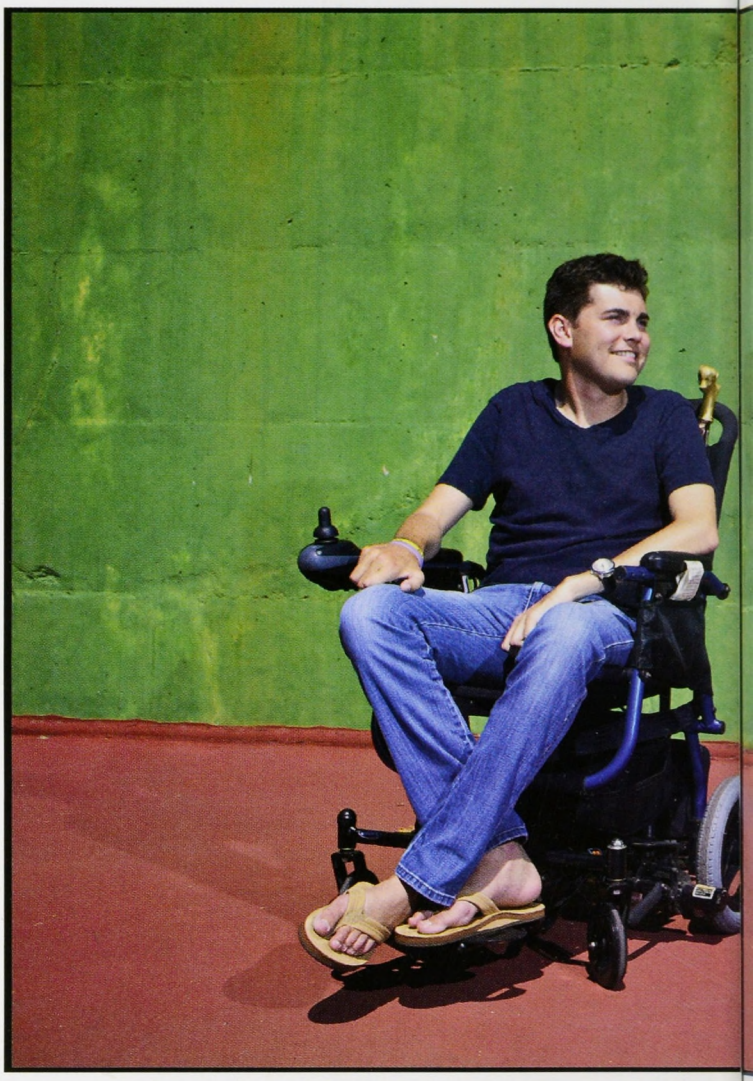
"At that time, if you really knew me really well, it was noticeable that something was wrong, but if you were a casual passerby, you wouldn't notice that I had this horrible disease," he says. "So that was the weird part, sitting there, thinking who knew and who didn't. But anyone who did know did anything they could to help out. "

The ice on the ground during Vermont's winters didn't make things easy for him. Sometimes he fell. He wore shoes with metal clamps on the soles for traction, and the College's Americans with Disabilities Act Office arranged to have the sidewalks on his routes to class shoveled early whenever it snowed. He also had trouble with his handwriting, so his professors let him take exams home to type them up.

"I told my teachers about it, so I got a lot of sympathy," he says, smiles, and then adds a bit of a serious thought. "That was the reason you went to Middlebury in the first place, because it's so small, and you do have amazing connections with the professors."

Graduation came in 2008, and Corey, like his classmates, stayed up the entire night beforehand. He had an amazing time, singing songs and watching the sunrise from the football field.

And, during the commencement ceremonies, he made his way up the ramp when it was his turn, holding onto the handrail "for dear life," he recalls. He was terrified that he would fall down in front of everyone. He didn't.



COREY HAS NO PROBLEM TALKING ABOUT THE DISEASE, and his warmth and attitude make him a natural for engaging others on the topic. The fact that he can still talk and move—although he now needs help getting dressed—means, in some twisted way, he has been lucky so far. If you can call it luck. There's no indication about why his progression has been slower so far, though some speculate that ALS occasionally moves more slowly in some younger men. ("We thought he'd be in a wheelchair within a year," Wendy notes.)

The lack of development in treatments for ALS is beyond frustrating for patients and their families. Part of the problem with making any progress, Ted believes, is that since the population living with ALS seems small, financial incentives haven't driven drug development for ALS as for other diseases. But if the life expectancy can just be lengthened, Ted believes, with more people living with the disease, there will be more interest.

Shortly after Corey was diagnosed, the family learned about an organization called ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI). It's a research laboratory dedicated to discovering and developing treatments to hopefully slow and eventually stop ALS.

Corey has become a major spokesperson for the institute, raising nearly $2 million for ALS TDI, speaking at conferences, and promoting the Young Faces of ALS Campaign to show that this isn't just an older person's disease.

He doesn't talk about "finding a cure," although nobody is denying that would be wonderful. He talks about finding something that can slow the progression. "It would almost seem selfish not to put myself out there," he says. "I have the opportunity to be a voice."

So he began to promote the organization and talk about the disease when given the opportunity, fitting it in with the other role he took when he returned from Middlebury: his job as an assistant coach of Piedmont High School's tennis team.

On a recent afternoon, a two-door Toyota Solara pulled up to the curb near Piedmont High School's tennis courts, and Neil Rothenberg jumped out of the driver's seat, walked to the passenger side, and helped Corey out of the car. "Take it easy," he told Corey, who struggled to get up. Neil held on to him as they slowly, unsteadily, made their way to the courts.

Corey has started his fourth season working alongside Neil, his friend and former coach. Around the time Corey was returning from Middlebury in 2008, Ted and Neil ran into each other, and when the conversation got to Corey, they talked about how he might make a good assistant coach. Corey and Neil had always had a good relationship, dating back to Corey's days as a player when the team called him, jokingly, "Poker Face Reich" for wearing his emotions on his sleeve. He could rally his teammates and wasn't afraid to be vocal. Now, as the assistant coach, the same is true.

"He's going to be a lot blunter than me, in telling them what to do," Neil says. "Corey's going to be a little tougher."

During a practice, Corey roamed the courts in his wheelchair, pointing out shots the players should or shouldn't have made, or offering counsel. Each year, Neil has had a chat with any of the new students on the team, explaining about Corey's condition. More recently, Neil has had to help Corey get situated, as he did on this day, but he doesn't think much of that. It's just part of the set up. You get the balls out, get the scorecard up, get Corey set—it's no big deal.

There's a special friendship between Corey and Neil, who probably understands Corey a little better than most people. When the coach was 30 years old, he had to see a neurologist himself. Losing muscle from his neck down, he tried to find out why he could no longer walk uphill, couldn't jump, and was having more and more physical problems. Ultimately he was diagnosed with, and recovered from, Guillain-Barre syndrome—one of the diseases Corey was originally tested for.

"It makes me a lot more sympathetic to what he has," Neil says. "And, I didn't have a death sentence."

He looks at his assistant coach and friend as an inspiration.

"I think the thing we're dreading is at some point we're not going to understand him," Neil says. "Somehow he's going to make it work, just knowing him.

"I think the frustrating thing is that he can't do the drug trials," he adds. "He doesn't fit the protocol. He's too far along."

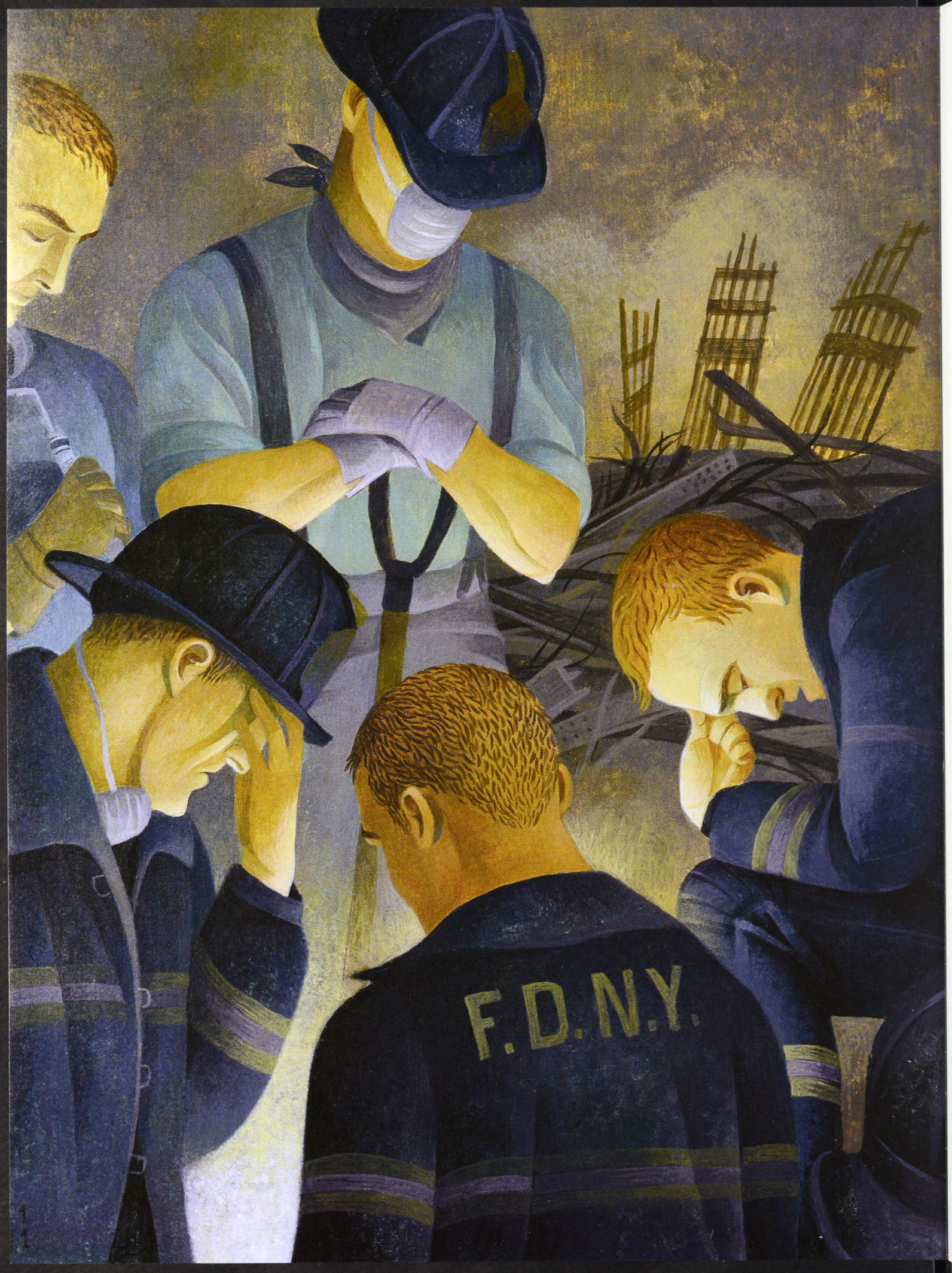
Corey isn't scared. He knows he could be depressed, but instead he tries to appreciate his life. He spends time outside while he still can. He enjoys little moments, like watching television with his family. He recognizes the simple things that make him happy.

"Obviously I'm not in denial," he says. "But I'm pretty good at living in the moment and not always thinking about the future. I'm a little afraid of death, but thankfully that's something that still seems far away. The disease doesn't scare me."

There are some big decisions ahead. At some point, he and his family will have to decide when the falls are too frequent and he needs to move to the wheelchair full time. And even further down the road, they're going to have to discuss if he ever wants to be put on a ventilator. But that's a discussion they're not ready to have yet.

There might be two strikes against him, but Corey is still at the plate. He has limped to get there, but there's a smile on his face and a glimmer in his eye.

Brian Eule is the author of Match Day: One Day *and* One Dramatic Year in the Lives of Three New Doctors *(St. Martin's Press.)*


F.D.N.Y.

By Michael Ricci,
MA English '92

Illustration by
Jody Hewgill

Day Eight, 1:15 AM, South Tower, Ground Zero

"Can you burn? Can you rig?" With a nod of my head I answer the battalion chief. The white shirt and gold badge on top of his fire helmet contrast with the night. His long, thin arm points past the crane and into the jungle of iron and ash.

"We need a beam cut and rigged out of the way."

Two firemen help me drag the torch hose around the line of cops in the bucket brigade. There are maybe 100 policemen. The line snakes around the crane into the jungle. In every hand there is a bucket of ash being passed down the line until it reaches any opening in the street. At the end, in front of the payloader, is an evenly spread pile of the ash. "Body parts."

"What?"

"Looking for body parts," one of the firemen blurts out as he drags the torch. The dogs sniff through the pile without stopping. Someone gives the nod, and the payloader scrapes the ash into its bucket.

I climb up a beaten path in the ash and over a set of mangled beams. There is another battalion chief with a "10" on his helmet standing on a set of beams that are pinned on top of one another. He sizes me up and then looks at the ironworker insignia on my hard hat. "What local union you out of?"

"424, New Haven," I tell him.

"Where should we cut it?" he asks. We climb in the ash pockets around the iron beams.

"These are the exterior structural columns. They shouldn't be that bad," I say. "They're a lot lighter than the interior columns. Maybe only about three tons a piece." I show him the stress points on the beams. He marks the spot so the cut beam will not collapse the pile. "Oh, before you start, there may be a car on the bottom of the pile, so get the hell out of the way if it catches."

A golden flame shoots from the tip of the torch. I adjust the gas until the flame becomes five blue cones. Testing the torch, I hit the trigger and it becomes a liquid knife. The four-inch-thick iron slowly heats, and when it becomes orange liquid, I hit the trigger. Molten iron shoots out. I lurch back, but my hand stays steady. As I work the torch, the iron beam starts to tear open. In the mix of the blowing ash and smoke, I catch the sparkle of the chief's golden badge. He is watching my every move. He has maybe seven men around him. All of them are watching me. The torch jerks, and the molten iron blows back in my face. A splatter of iron becomes embedded in my neck, and a puff of burnt skin enters the respirator. It smells no different than the ash. The torch stops cutting and I try to dig the iron out of my neck. The crowd of men, now maybe 15, steps toward me, until I regain control of the torch. Liquid iron starts to blow through the beam again.

Before I start the last cut, the chief orders me to stop and take a "breather." The respirator is plastered onto my face by the mixture of sweat, ash, and smoke, but I finally rip it off. The air on the outside is no better. I sit down on the beam and look around. I see a woman's shoe, a flat with elastic edges. It is dirty white with floral patterns. Fearing it will burn, I push it out of the way.

In sweeping motions, the blue flame rips through the last cut. The firemen move closer to me, but I try to look at nothing but the flame. The torch passes halfway through the cut. As it continues to blow through the iron, the beam shifts and the torch jumps, throwing liquid iron up into the air. My body springs away. The torch drops into the ash. The chief drags me violently off the beam.

Twenty to 30 firemen stare at the beam and then at me. I get right up like nothing happened and slowly pick up the torch, giving myself enough time to check that all my body parts are still attached. The beam lurches but does not collapse. I raise my hand to call the crane. The glaring temporary light through the smoke makes the crane operator a blur. My hand signals slash through the air. The operator knows exactly what I need, and he drops the crane's hook into my hand.

The crane slightly lifts and secures the beam. I see nothing again but the blue flame ripping through the iron. As I come to the final inch, the crowd of firemen moves towards me. The flame blows through the last scale of iron, and the beam jumps. An odor races up. It is pungent and heavy. I try not to gag. I try to stand straight. I try not to cry. With a lightheadedness, I move my hand slowly. The crane revs its engine, adding diesel to the smell of the ash and the decaying flesh. Slowly the mangled beam rises from the void. The crowd jumps forward. The beam swings out of control towards them. They don't care. They jump into the void.

The crane's thick steel cable strains as it eases the beam out of the void. My body leans into the beam to steady it as it rises. When it is finally over my head, the chief yells out, "Stop," and my hand slashes through the air. The crane jerks to a halt. In metered words, the chief tells me to bring . . . it . . . down. Not knowing why, I bring the beam down to eye level and stop again. One of the men in the void hands the chief a shiny pry bar. He leverages his weight and pries a plastic slab from the dull metallic facade that was the tower's skin. It is a crushed fire helmet, with a gold "10" still visible. He gives me the nod. With quick, firm thrusts, I signal the crane to get the beam out of there.

"Oh, before you start, there may be a car on the bottom of the pile, so get the hell out of the way if it catches."

Around the void, the firemen make a circle. Every face is lit up—every eye on the void. In unison their helmets come off. Nothing is said. There is silence. All the right hands touch a head, then a stomach, left shoulder, right shoulder.

The chief calls for a body bag. From the edge of the circle the bag is handed, head over head. But it is way too small for a body—it almost looks like a Glad bag. A small spade is handed down to the chief. I only look forward. I hear something slide from the neck of the bag to the bottom.

I offer my hand to the chief as he gets out of the void, but he lays the body bag with its contents on a beam and lifts himself out of the void. With his hand on my shoulders, he points me to the next beam. He picks up the body bag between his thumb and index finger and walks into the dark. As I climb over to the next beam, I notice all the cutting torches in the mountains of iron and ash around me lighting up the night.

Michael Ricci is a 1992 graduate of the Bread Loaf School of English and a union iron worker. Though reluctant to write about his experience as a first responder on 9/11, he says it was the late Ken Macrorie, a longtime Bread Loaf professor, who urged—and ultimately convinced—him to publish this work.

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Class Action

LOCAL FARE
Pete Johnson '97 was at the forefront of the locavore movement long before it was hip. Photograph by Jordan Silverman

For Pete's Sake

Farmer Pete Johnson '97 gets by a fire with a little help from his friends.

By Sarah Tuff '95

On a mid-morning in August, you can find just about anything at Pete's Greens farm stand in the village of Craftsbury, Vermont: red beefsteak tomatoes, cippolini onions, Japanese eggplant, curly parsley, tender young spinach, and fennel.

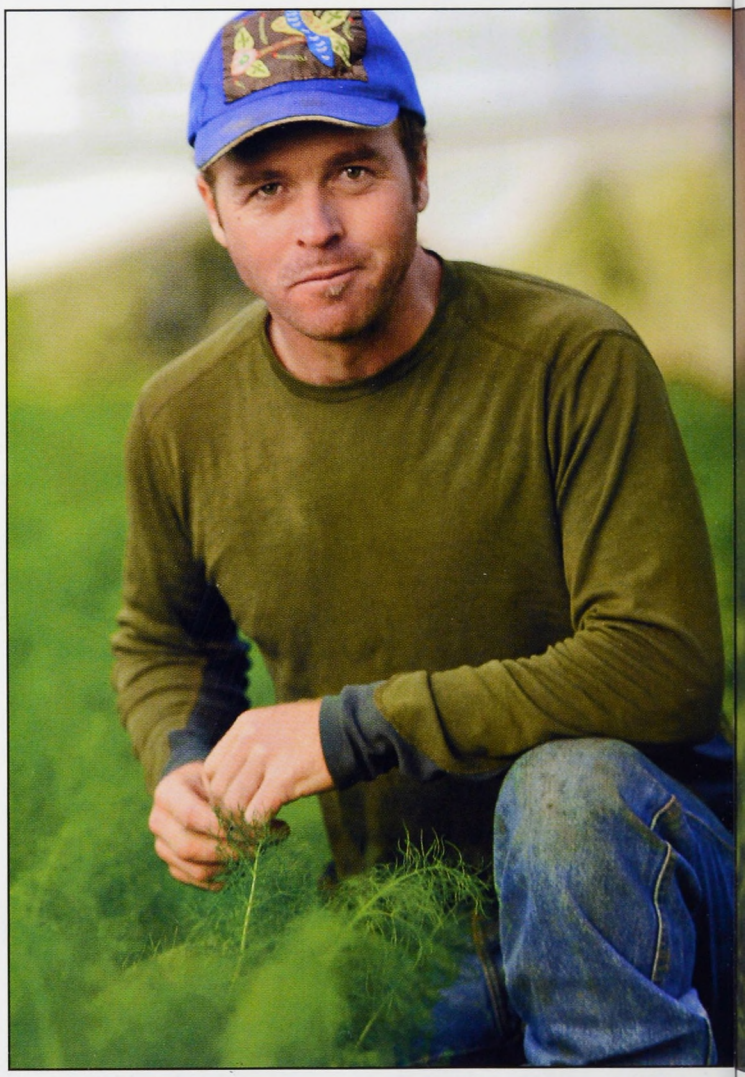
Finding Pete Johnson '97 himself on the surrounding 230 acres, however, is a bit trickier. He's nowhere to be found in the red house that serves as his home and his company's office, or down in the fields of shimmering emerald rows. In a sprawling new barn that smells of freshly cut wood and earth, workers are busy rinsing floors and assembling boxes; Crocs-wearing women wander to and fro. But still, no Pete.

Finally, Johnson jumps out of an old Mazda pickup and comes trotting down the hill, apologetic and a little distracted. But such is the life of a celebrity farmer—one who had become famous for many good reasons in the last few years of the burgeoning local-food movement, and then for one bad reason last January, which just made him more famous.

Johnson never intended to become a celebrity. Born in Washington state, he was planting seeds and pulling weeds as a preschooler; starting his own pumpkin farm before he was 10; and experimenting, as a teenager, with greenhouses. "I really like producing food," he says while sitting on a flatbed trailer and scraping the dirt with an old piece of wood. "I really like soil; I really like the biological processes involved and being the caretaker."

After the Johnson family moved to Greensboro, Vermont, when he was 12, they chose homeschooling for the four kids, but when Pete and his sister wanted to compete in Nordic skiing and cross-country running, they enrolled at nearby Burke Mountain Academy. Attending the University of Vermont, which has a college of agriculture and life sciences, might have been the natural course for Johnson, but he instead chose Middlebury thanks to its friendly vibe. "I liked where it was located as far as the natural environment," adds the 39-year-old Johnson, who was an environmental studies major with a focus on sustainable agriculture. "I had a really good experience as far as the administration being flexible; it was just an open place in that way."

While at Middlebury, Johnson started Pete's Greens in 1995 and built a solar greenhouse for his senior thesis, becoming a local-food pioneer by growing salad greens year-round. But after graduation, once he returned to his parents' land in Greensboro to clear less than an acre, Johnson was, well, just a farmer. "This wasn't

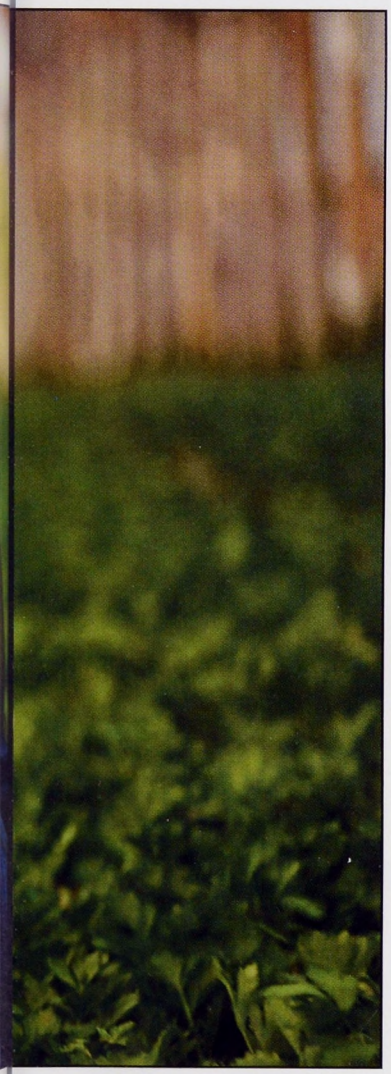


MR. GREEN JEANS
Johnson has become the poster child for four-season organic farming and for buying ingredients within a 100-mile radius.

Photograph by Jordan Silverman

hip back then—this is hip now," he says. "The first two or three years out of school, I would see people from that world and tell them what I was doing, and that was the end of the conversation, not a lot to talk about. But now, it's the beginning of a huge conversation."

You bet. In 2003, Johnson was able to purchase his own farm, nearly 200 acres



of stone-free loam right in Craftsbury Village. And by 2007, when the Oxford American Dictionary declared "locavore" as the word of the year, Johnson had become the poster child for four-season organic farming and for buying ingredients within a 100-mile radius. For him, *Food & Wine,* VPR, and the *Boston Globe* gave way to the cover of *Vermont Life,* the *New York Times*, and *Scientific American,* among other media appearances.

Though he was already working more than 70 hours a week, Johnson obliged. "Media attention does take time but is generally a good thing," he says. "It helps get the word out about the farm, and it's also fun to be part of positive news stories. Every time we're part of a story—particularly when it goes beyond Vermont—we hear from folks who are inspired by what is going on here and who are trying to create something similar in their area."

Johnson went back to bed, heard a noise, and looked out of his home to see flames.

When it comes to attention and the power to inspire, however, perhaps nothing inspired Johnson during the aftermath of January 12, 2011, when an early morning fire destroyed the Pete's Greens barn and more than $250,000 in crops and frozen meats. That night, after loading a truck with the week's community supported agriculture (CSA) shares at 3:00 AM, Johnson went back to bed, heard a noise, and looked out of his home to see flames.

"It was a shock—it wasn't as huge a shock as it could have been because it happens; within 15 miles of here there's probably been four barns that have burned in the last two to three years," says Johnson, who was insured for about half of what he lost. "Still, when I first saw it, I was like, 'Man, I can't believe this,' because it was clear that there was no saving it.'"

But as news about the fire (apparently caused by a three-phase power converter that exploded) spread around the state, somebody planted the seed of an idea that the people could save Pete's Greens. One fund-raiser sprouted up at Gardener's Supply, and then another at Montpelier's Onion River Sports, and yet another at the Reservoir Tap Room in Waterbury. Photographers sold prints to help out; gymnasiums hosted contra dances; co-ops accepted donations at the counter. All told, Johnson estimates, $165,000 was gathered, not including a $300,000 grant announced by Governor Peter Shumlin and two loans from the Vermont Economic Development Authority totaling $425,000.

He was most touched, he says, by the church supper organized by the people of Craftsbury a couple of weeks after the fire, when villagers emptied their pockets of $20 bills for Pete's Greens. "That one just left me raw," says Johnson. "I didn't understand how significant we are in town, and it opened my eyes; it was a really cool night."

So was February 3, 2011, when members of Phish and other Vermont bands joined together at Burlington's Higher Ground for an all-star jam that had just about every member of the sold-out audience singing along to "With a Little Help from My Friends." Being up on stage with the rock stars was weird, says Johnson. "But it was about more than that," he says of his celebrity status. "It was about supporting local foods and farmers, and sharing wealth."

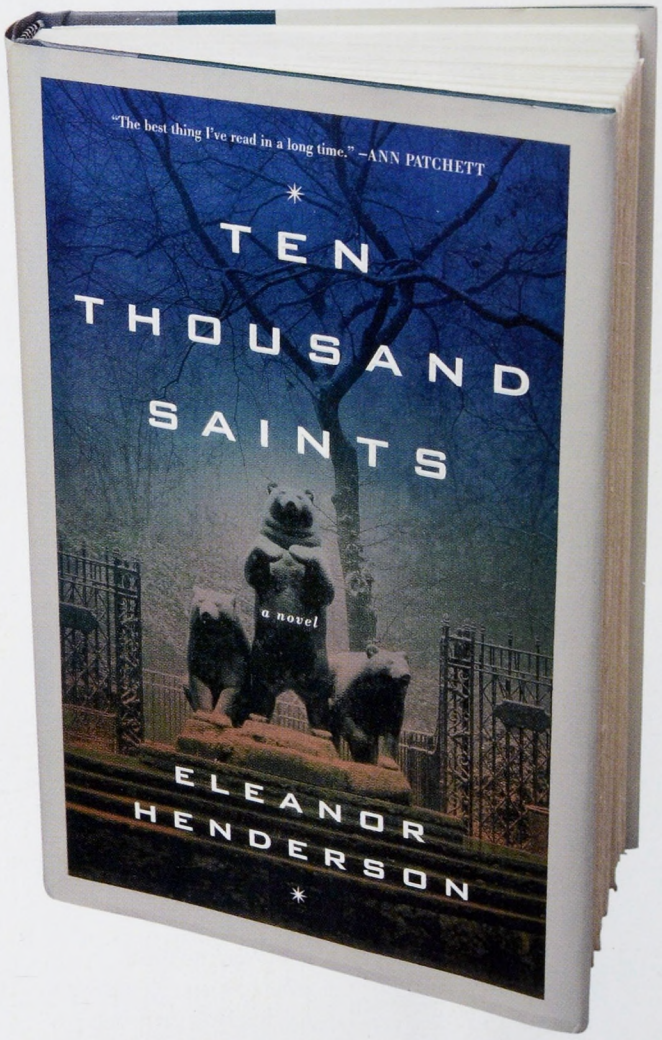
In that spirit, Johnson has vowed to pay donations forward to a fund that will help other Vermont farmers in need. In the meantime, there are greens to pick, and onions to cure, and animals to raise, and winters of 20-below to prepare for, and 18 workers to supervise in his 70-plus-hour workweeks, which have actually been scaled back from what they used to be.

The payoff, of course, is not in all those dollars, but in meals of fresh, local vegetables, meat, cheese and bread that fuel Johnson (who says that 75 percent of what he consumes comes right from the farm) and so many other Vermonters, and Americans, now that there has been a paradigm shift in the way people think about food.

And if a little fame and fortune that he gets to share comes along with that, well, so be it. "Sometimes people think I do all this myself, but I'm this cheerleader who runs around and gives advice and once in while, when I'm lucky, I get to do my own work," says Johnson. "This is a really challenging occupation. There're days where a little less challenge would be OK, but I think it would be hard to do something that wasn't as challenging. It would be kind of a letdown."

Punk Scene

After the death of a friend, a teenage boy embraces the straight edge world.



By Elisabeth Crean

The most important character in the debut novel from Eleanor Henderson '01 dies just a few chapters into the story. Yet Teddy McNicholas hovers over *Ten Thousand Saints* (Ecco, 2011) for the rest of the tale. Grief and guilt drive the actions of his family and friends after New Year's Day 1988 dawns in Lintonburg, Vermont, and a drug overdose has killed 15-year-old Teddy.

Henderson paints her troubled lead characters in rich detail. A quirky cast of damaged teens and derelict parents searches for meaning in a chaotic, substance-addled world.

When the novel begins, Teddy and his best friend Jude are celebrating New Year's Eve as many juvenile delinquents-in-training do: abusing multiple mind-altering chemicals and committing petty theft to support their habit. That evening, they meet Jude's sort-of stepsister, Eliza—her mom dates Jude's dad—who is returning to Manhattan from a ski vacation. At a party, Eliza introduces Teddy to cocaine and sex. The boys huff Freon on their way home and pass out on the street.

Jude's mother, Harriet, finds the boys frozen on the sidewalk, one alive and one dead. Harriet makes bongs for a living; Jude's dad deals pot. The adults have never outgrown their hippie youths. As Jude recovers in the hospital, a doctor notes that the boy, who was adopted, shows signs of fetal alcohol syndrome. Harriet's reaction? "How wonderful it would be to find the source of all this, to blame it on some other mother."

Jude reaches out to Teddy's 18-year-old brother, Johnny. (Teddy's parents are already out of the picture.) Johnny lives on Manhattan's Lower East Side, not far from Jude's new digs, where he lives with his dope-dealing dad. Johnny rejects the rudderless dysfunction of the adults and devotes himself to the strict lifestyle of the burgeoning straight edge punk music scene. The straight edge credo dictates no smoking, drinking, drugs, eating meat, or fooling around with girls.

Under Johnny's influence, Jude embraces straight edge with addictive fervor. And then Eliza comes back into their lives, pregnant with Teddy's baby. Henderson turns a potentially soap-operatic plot twist into the most engaging element of the narrative. Three poorly parented teens try to do right by the unborn child of the person they loved. They do what those who gave birth to them never managed: form a functioning family.

In a story populated mostly by troubled adolescent males, 15-year-old Eliza is the author's most compellingly drawn character. When Eliza returns to boarding school after Teddy's death—her umpteenth stop in a checkered academic career—she throws herself into studying for the first time. It helps her avoid thinking about anything, "the blank page of her underwear" most of all. "To say that she had lost herself would imply a surrender, an accident; she was lost, but she had lost herself willfully, as one does when being chased. Into each fluorescent classroom she leapt sharpened pencil first."

Henderson's prose excels in these quiet moments: flashes of insight into character; concisely limned descriptions of place. Eliza's first impression of Jude: "He was sort of dangerously adorable, like one of those wide-eyed donkeys

that would either kick you or eat out of your hand." When Jude's father told him, at nine years old, that he was adopted, Jude "wishes he could unknow all of it, just tilt his head and shake it out of his ear, like bathwater." Johnny loves his gritty corner of the Lower East Side: "He liked the goulash of his neighborhood, the alphabet soup, the insults spoken in foreign tongues."

The story sometimes veers into improbable territory as Johnny and Jude strive to protect Eliza's pregnancy while launching their music careers. Even when the plot wobbles, Henderson's painstaking research—nine years worth—into '80s Manhattan and straight edge punk lends great period texture to these elements of her tale.

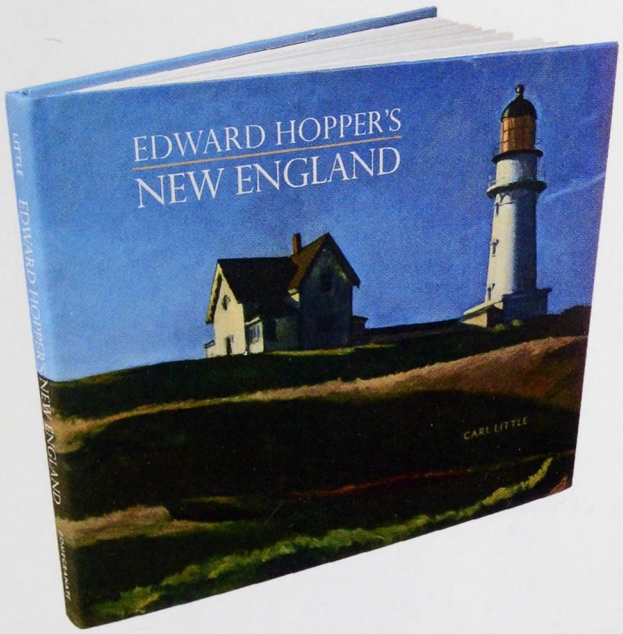
■

EDWARD HOPPER WAS PASSIONATELY DRAWN to the varied and volatile essence of New England, where he spent most of his summers. His collection of paintings depicting slanting seaside homes, desolate main streets, rolling dunes, and rocky shores spans more than 50 years of his career, each capturing the region's stark and stoic nuances. Just as his brooding cityscapes immortalized a grim alienation of the human spirit, so do his rural scenes—whether it's a sole figure in *The Dory,* an aging couple in *Cape Cod Evening,* or the single nude in *A Woman in the Sun.*

In *Edward Hopper's New England* (Pomegranate, 2011), Carl Little, MA French '86, captures the evolving role the coastline and inlands played as the artist's central subject over a long stretch of time. The large-scale format of the book allows for full-page color reprints so readers can linger over every detail.

Little's thoughtful and encompassing essay precedes the works and puts into context the artist's expertise in a range of media, from etching to watercolor to oil. In addition to providing a historical perspective of Hopper, including his early training in New York and Paris, Little categorizes the New England works by region, from his first visits to Gloucester and southern Maine to his later trips further afield. The essayist gives shape to Hopper's mark on the art world, noting that while many artists have been drawn to the iconic coastline image, "it was Hopper who made of the lighthouse a representative and enduring image." Lighthouses indeed play a large role in Hopper's view of New England, with four in particular included in this book. Little adds that many critics "have read Hopper's lighthouses and architectural manifestations of the theme of loneliness found elsewhere in his art."

"He liked the goulash of his neighborhood, the alphabet soup, the insults spoken in foreign tongues."



The remote island of Monhegan, off the mid-coast of Maine, has long been a haven for artists. Hopper spent time there with his beloved teacher, Robert Henri, and fellow students, among them Rockwell Kent. One of the islands most treacherous headlands, Blackhead, makes an appearance in several of Hopper's early New England works. Though his name does not leap to mind as quickly as Wyeth and Winslow Homer when one thinks of Maine, it's clear the rugged landscape made a worthy impression and had a strong influence in later works.

Later Hopper turned his eye on Cape Cod, not so much for its softer landscape, which he says did not appeal to him, but for its luminous sunlight and islandlike shape, set as it is so far and long out in the sea. Many of his works from that period capture that light, falling across old barns, grassy fields and hillsides, but always retaining that essence of sadness and quiet that seemed to inspire him.

In closing, Little quotes the poet Richard Wilbur, who held that "all men approach the landscape self-centeredly or self-expressively, looking for what agrees with their temperaments, what seems to embody their emotions." In New England, Hopper saw much of himself. And Little, in turn, delivers that vision wholeheartedly.

—Blair Kloman, MA English '94

Recently Published

■ *The Parallel Process: Growing Alongside Your Adolescent or Young Adult Child in Treatment* (Lantern Books, 2010) by KRISSY POZATEK '96

■ *This Is Me from Now On* (Aladdin M!X, 2010) by BARBARA DEE, MA ENGLISH '83

■ *The New Sciences of Religion: Exploring Spirituality from the Outside In and Bottom Up* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010) by WILLIAM GRASSIE '79

■ *Active Against Cancer: A Guide to Improving Your Cancer Recovery with Exercise* (Courage Mountain Press, 2011) by NANCY S. BRENNAN '80

■ *Shadow Swans* (Tiny Mammoth Press, 2011) by LAURA THOMAS '96

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TAD MERRICK

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I'm sorry to report that another classmate has left us. **Grace Harris Wieners** died at home on July 3. At Middlebury she majored in French and was active in Kappa Kappa Gamma. She was also in the Mountain Club, Glee Club, on the Pan-Hellenic Council, and was the class secretary for two years. ✳ I would like to know what my classmates are doing. Please send me news about where you are living.

—Class Correspondent: *Alma Davis Struble, 147 West State St., Room 208, Kennett Square, PA 19348.*

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Agnes "Aggie" Harris Taylor and **Marion Cole Morhouse** attended their 75th reunion on the weekend of June 3–5. They both participated in Convocation and were honored by their fellow alumni, who gave them a standing ovation when they walked in!

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REUNION CLASS

Still working on the editorial staff of our local volunteer newspaper. I recently wrote about consumer fraud in the electronics field but am now working on a more pleasant subject, a day spent with Jackie Onassis when I was director of PR and development at Stevens Tech. She visited that college with son John and his class.

—Class Correspondent: *Marshall Sewell, 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whiting, NJ 08759.*

38

It is time to let my classmates know that you will only read news of **Eleanor Barnum Gardner**, **Janet Randall Morgan**, **Polly Overton Camp**, or me unless you are willing to take time to send me news about yourself! The names of those above are the classmates with whom I keep in touch quite often. **Eleanor Gardner**'s twin grandchildren, a boy and a girl, visited her recently. They were a year old in September and live in Montreal where their mother teaches at McGill Univ. ✳ The first weekend in July we had our annual Hall family reunion at daughter Lynne and husband David's perennial farm in South Royalton, Vt. There are many joys for me when I see my six great-grandchildren, three girls and three boys. Also represented were six states and two Canadian provinces. Like so many families today, we are living in many locations. In July Lynne and David took me to Breakwaters Restaurant on Lake Champlain in Burlington to celebrate my 95th birthday. It was such fun watching yachts going and coming and a number of them were flying Canadian flags. ✳ So with a plea to send in news, I wish you all well.

—Class Correspondent: *Mrs. Charles M. Hall (Margaret Leslie), 100 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

39

I regret to report the death of **Elinor Wieland Cain** on May 9 and **Joyce Mackenzie Cropsey** on April 15. I also learned that **Dorothy Harris Ramsey** passed away on June 10, 2009. I received a letter from Elinor's daughter, Barbara Froman. She stated that when her mother's mind was wandering she felt that she was back at Middlebury reliving her student days. She always told Barbara that her days at the College were some of the happiest of her life. Elinor worked for Dr. Freeman for several years while she was in college and kept in touch with him when she graduated. She was an educator herself and the retired chairman of the language department of Sewanhaka High School. ✳ Since Elinor taught languages, I make the following ad hoc observation. I took three years of Latin in prep school and all I remember is that Caesar said *Veni, Vidi, Vici* (I came, I saw, I conquered). In college I learned *De gustibus non disputatum est* (there's no accounting for taste). In law school I learned *De minimis non curat lex* (the law does not concern itself with trifles). Now that I am 92 years of age I know *Tempus fugit* (time flies). ✳ Not long ago I spent three weeks on Martha's Vineyard. I fished every day for blue fish and caught none. They had not migrated north as yet. I could have fished for striped bass. But that was an evening adventure. I was too busy drinking red wine in the hopes it would extend my life so that I could attend the 75th reunion of our class. Someone with vast medical experience told me red wine extends your life. On my way to Martha's Vineyard this fall, I intend to spend a night at Middlebury to celebrate a 72.5 reunion. Just in case the red wine theory does not perform as expected.

—Class Correspondent: *A. Roger Clarke (arogerclarke@aol.com), 7 Rundel Park, Rochester, NY 14607.*

40

Curtis McDowell died on May 6 at the age of 93. He had retired from his law practice in Chicago a few years ago and had been living in an assisted-living residence with his family nearby, except for his daughter Sylvia, who is a real estate agent in the Phoenix area. Curtis was an English major who thrived under the influence of Doctor Cook. He earned his law degree in night school after graduating from Midd. He was captain of the tennis team his senior year at Midd and played a very good game. ✳ **Martha Taylor Elliott** reports that all is well with her. She lives in a duplex with her son and daughter-in-law and still gives an occasional music lesson. ✳ **Ed Morse** was recently honored when the *Bowdoin*, the ship that Commander Donald McMillan used for his Arctic explorations, sailed by his home in Owl's Head. Ed greeted the ship with a salute from his ceremonial cannon and the *Bowdoin* then fired a salute of cannons in his honor. This was well deserved as Ed led the effort to restore the *Bowdoin* to a seaworthy state several years ago. You may remember that Ed made one trip with McMillan and they became fast friends on that voyage. As a result of that trip, Ed also met and married a lovely and talented lady, Helga, who succumbed to cancer in the 1990s. After a few years, Ed married her sister, Inger. Both ladies grew up in Greenland and spoke Inuit fluently. ✳ Your correspondent, **Loring Pratt**, was honored by being chosen to serve as guest of honor for the midwinter meeting of the Triological Association, one of the senior otolaryngological societies. ✳ Once again, we share one of the reflections sent to **R.C. Anderson** before reunion when he asked for classmates' news. **Sally Nothnagle Tefft** writes, "Following graduation I attended business school in Bridgeport, Conn., then worked in the office of my father's furniture store. I married **Richard Tefft** and we settled in Greenwich, N.Y. Dick worked at the *Greenwich Journal*, a weekly newspaper owned by the Teffts. Our daughter, Susan, was born in 1942 and sons Culver, Timothy '71, and Tabor were born after the war. Dick served in the 442nd Engineers from 1943 to 1946 in England and France. When he returned to Greenwich, he worked at the newspaper. After our youngest boy started school, a stationer's store was opened, which I managed plus doing collating print jobs, proofreading, and some advertising. In 1969 set copy for the paper changed to compugraphs and then computers (education never ends). We purchased the paper from Dick's two sisters in 1978 and I have owned it and worked on it ever since with the help (one at a time) of my sons. Tim has been the heart of its continued weekly survival since 1995. Between us we produce each week's edition."

—Class Correspondent: *Dr. Loring W. Pratt (roachpond@aol.com), 37 Laurence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.*

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Correspondent **Margaret Shaub** attended the 70th reunion and reports: The weekend got off to a propitious start with good weather and a lively crew of staff members, volunteers, and students who greeted everyone as they arrived on campus. I wish you all could have been there, but as people came and went, the total of attendees from our class, according to my count, was as follows: **Gordie Brooks**, from Florida; **Jean Connor**, from Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt.; **Wilton "Bud" Covey**, from Middlebury; **Merritt Garland**, from Massachusetts; **David Hammond**, from Ohio; **Charlotte Gilbert Lightfoot**, from California; **Dan Martin**, with 11 family members, from Georgia; **Barbara Wells**, from Middlebury; and me, from South Burlington. We were housed in Gifford Hall, conveniently located across the road from Proctor dining hall, where we took our meals, including our class dinner Friday evening. At that occasion I conveyed messages I had received from several of you. Not everyone could stay the full two days, but at the Convocation on Saturday at 5:00 in Mead Chapel, six of us shared seats in the first two rows with two members of the Class of 1936! We were all duly honored. There were lots of events taking place during the weekend—the Cane Society luncheon, which I attended; talks by President Liebowitz; workshops; a presentation by environmentalist Bill McKibben; two Alumni Achievement awards and two Alumni Plaque awards—to name but a few. Everything was well planned in advance, and it was obvious the College had done everything to make it a memorable and rewarding occasion. ✳ I had a phone call from **Jane Skillman Sara**, who didn't make it to reunion. She had recently talked

with **Peg Wiley Thomson**, who is doing well, and she had been in touch with **Barbara Wells**. Also, a note from **Bill Littlehale** expressed regret that he had been unable to attend. ✳ Correspondent **Elizabeth Wolfington Hubbard-Ovens** reports: We are sad to report the deaths of **Mildred "Polly" Potter Tesar** on March 28 and **Malcolm Freiberg** on June 27. Our sympathy is surely extended to both families. Polly left us after two years. Mal was a '41 grad and his bio in the 50th reunion book tells it all. He had great enthusiasm for his Middlebury years, and had an outstanding career and family. The reunion book is a treasure. You can browse it at leisure and be reminded of good times and good friends.

—Class Correspondents: *Elizabeth Wolfington Hubbard-Ovens, 22 Inverness Dr., Apt. I-116, New Hartford, NY 13413; Margaret Shaub, 159 Village Green Dr., Apt. 2, South Burlington, VT 05403.*

42 REUNION CLASS

A bit of news this issue: **Bob Northrop** phoned recently and we had a nice chat. All goes well with his large family—and all goes equally well in northern Vermont. ✳ **Dixie Davis** also telephoned not long ago. He has made the move to Westminster, Md., and enjoys life with his daughter, Sherry. ✳ **Margi Fell Council** lives in Marin County, across the Golden Gate Bridge. We met recently for lunch—she came to the city via ferry and I met her as she debarked. I had arrived there via bus and the old trolley line. So be it when one gives up one's car. ✳ I hope you will start thinking about our 70th reunion, which will be next June. I hope many of us will be able to meet there!

—Class Correspondent: *Joan Calley Cooper (jcallcoop@gmail.com), 3400 Laguna St., Apt. 331, San Francisco, CA 94123.*

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Correspondent **Jean Jordan Sheild** reports: A letter from **Peg Bullock Marti** states that she's living happily in a very nice senior apartment building in Midland, Mich. She already had some friends there when she moved in and has found many more. There's a very helpful staff that keeps them well fed, entertained, and informed. Although she has some arthritis, she is in good health. She enjoyed reading John Grisham's book, *The Last Juror*, but didn't much like Carol Burnett's autobiography. ✳ We were saddened to hear that **Betty Attenhofer Van Valkenburg** had passed away on May 13. Her daughter, Nancy Glover '77, reported that she had been doing very well until March when she suffered several falls over a few weeks' time, resulting in stays in the hospital. She had finally stopped eating and was in hospice care. Betty majored in French at Middlebury and I remember her living in the Château. She loved skiing and she met her husband at the Bromley ski area. They had many years together and traveled extensively worldwide but were always glad to return to their home on Candlewood Isle in Connecticut. In the 50th reunion booklet she wrote, "It has been a good life and I've always appreciated my years at Middlebury." ✳ In a conversation with **Mary Hickcox Lecko**, she reported that she is still living in her own home with her son in Terryville, Conn. She keeps active by walking around the neighborhood when the weather permits and, added jokingly, that when it rains she runs up and down the stairs several times! After Middlebury, Mary became an occupational therapist for 10 years then was married and had four children. She was looking forward to her sister, Charlotte '45, visiting her during the summer. ✳ We were saddened to hear of **Ginny Clemens Lowman**'s passing on July 19. When I called her husband, Rod, to express my sympathy, he mentioned that they had just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in June. They had attended a summer theater matinee and luncheon at a nearby country club followed by an Open House with about 15 of their closest friends. He reminisced about all the wonderful trips they had taken all over the world—to at least 57 different countries. They always had connections to the Girl Scouts or Girl Guides and Ginny planned them all. We remember how Ginny was always full of enthusiasm for college activities. With her boundless energy and passion for doing good, she made this a better world. ✳ **Eleanor Wilcox Murphy** says she is in remarkably good health and stays very active by doing lots of exercises every day. She is still living in her home of 59 years and, ever since her husband died in January, she has had a caregiver who checks on her. Although she walks with a cane, she was able to visit her son in Virginia and attend the Kennedy Center recently. She is still very much a Red Sox fan and also watches the Bruins and Celtics on TV. When I asked her if she remembered any special time at Middlebury, she laughed and recalled that on one Mountain Club hike they were doing the Virginia Reel and she had to be carried out—she can't remember why (any clue anybody?). ✳ News about **Liz Scherholz Pell** came from her daughter, Susan. She is presently in an assisted-living facility and is doing pretty well. Susan lives nearby so is able to visit her often. When I called Liz, she had difficulty talking, but told me that her sister had gone to Middlebury four years before her and had set a pretty high standard for her to follow. ✳ **Gloria Merritt Piersall** is grateful to have healthy genes because she still drives and likes to get into the country and enjoy the scenery. She did get to New Jersey last summer to see some of the family, which consists of 55 nephews and nieces, many living around the world. Living in Hardtner, Kan., she said this had been a very dry season—the worst in 35 years. ✳ I had a pleasant chat with **Carol Lewthwaite Lockard**'s son, Paul, who told me that his mom is now in a rehab facility. In spite of a broken leg two years ago and various heart problems, resulting in hospice for a time, she is now having physical therapy. She attends community church services every Wednesday at this facility. Her daughter, Kathy '72, lives nearby. Paul felt that his mom was proud of her time at Middlebury and she later worked for Pratt and Whitney, where she met her husband. She worked for the Red Cross after that. ✳ I was delighted to get an update on **Pat Rogers Prukop** from her son, Christopher, who lives in Brookline, Mass. He had been to Hawaii to visit her in April and to celebrate her 89th birthday. She is pretty well and still living in her own home. Although she walks with a cane, she is able to drive and get together with a few close friends. She had open-heart surgery five years ago with a triple bypass and has had knee surgery on both knees. Sons Tim and Mick live in California, and son Greg lives in Oregon. ✳ Correspondent **John Gale** reports: **Page Ufford**, now in his 13th year in the 400-resident retirement home in Coatesville, Pa., enjoyed a stay at his son's condo on Lake Winnipesaukee, N.H., from where he visited Middlebury. He also made a visit to a son in Atlanta. He continues to prefer stairs to the elevator, conducts the home's memorial and vespers services, and drives locally. He has some macular degeneration in one eye but is able to read and use his computer. ✳ **Howie Friedman** and wife Daisy spent two weeks at Mako Bay, St. John, in the Virgin Islands and were planning to summer in the Tetons near Jackson Hole, Wyo. Their son lives nearby them in Vermont. In late June, Howie was preparing to take part in the Fourth of July parade to display the types of equipment used by the 10th Mountain Division in the mountains in Italy. He was recently diagnosed as having Parkinson's disease, which fortunately seems controlled by medication. ✳ **Red Barmby**, in a retirement community in Springfield, Va., has also developed Parkinson's, which has contributed to several falls, one resulting in a hip fracture earlier this year, with good recovery, however. Medication has alleviated the effects of the disorder to some extent. He no longer drives and has given up his consulting work. He says wife Ellaveen is taking good care of him. ✳ **Roger Easton** suffered an ill turn this spring, necessitating hospitalization at the VA hospital in White River Jct., Vt., and as of July 1 was in a rehabilitation unit. ✳ **George Nitchie**, at age 90, died in Hingham, Mass., on June 6. George grew up in Northfield, Vt., along with **Ted Peach**, and after Middlebury, he obtained an MA and a PhD from Columbia and taught at Simmons College in Boston, where he headed the English dept. and where he must have made English literature a more interesting subject for a great many students. He was a quiet person, with the delightful wry sense of humor traditionally associated with Vermonters. George was a writer, a chorale group singer, a woodworker, and a founder of ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out), an example of his whimsical bent.

—Class Correspondents: *Dr. John S. Gale (jsgale22@comcast.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930; Jean Jordan Sheild (jjsheild@sbcglobal.net), 4408 Winnequah Rd., Monona, WI 53716.*

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Al Boissevain left his California vineyards to join a retirement community in Bloomington, Ind., because his daughter declared he "had to." (He hastens to add that she was right.) He would, however, like a bit of Vermont cool sent his way to mitigate the humidity. The retirement community in which he lives is near Indiana Univ. and Al avails himself of its many concerts. He keeps in touch with good friends—Betty Ann Evans King '45 in Concord, Mass., and **Paul Crocker** in Falmouth, Mass. In March, Al returned to California for **Al Rathbun**'s memorial service. He then lingered on to revisit the area where he had lived and grown his prosperous vineyards. By the time he returned to his home in Bloomington, he was able to say, "It was a lovely past and it is a lovely present" in his cottage with his dog. ✳ **Polly Powers Wallace** has been living for the last 11 years in Pendleton, S.C., a small town adjacent to Clemson Univ. She moved there from California. Before that, she'd lived in Colorado. Going way back, you may recall that Polly was at Midd for a couple of years and transferred to Cornell, but she was back at Midd for her 25th reunion and still feels close to her first college. Son John and his family live nearby, in Atlanta, Ga. Daughter Julianne '69 and her family are in NYC and daughter Marybeth is in Ventura, Calif. (in an apartment three blocks from the beach). Of two grandsons who help fill the family picture, one was in Peru in June, traveling South America with his girlfriend before returning to go to Harvard Law School; the other is in med school, expecting to be a psychiatrist. ✳ Richard and **Winifred "Winnie" Witzigman Ballou** have been inveterate and tireless world travelers over the years. These days, they are content to be at home in Camden, N.Y., with their wonderful memories.

Some memories are poignant, recalling great times in countries now in turmoil. Current news reports about life-changing restlessness in those places make Winnie hope for a return to some kind of normalcy for the many people they got to know in their travels. She and Richard continue to urge others to travel and engage with the rich diversity of the world. ✳ **Sally Curtis** is at home in Rutland, Vt., snug in the house her grandfather built from a barn. She looks right across the street at another barn remodeled by her father into the three-story house she grew up in. A problem with eyesight is making it unwise to drive. But she has many friends who do that chore, when she wants help, so she does get around. She sings with her Episcopal Church choir, attends Midd reunions, and keeps in touch with friends, including those from her many teaching years at Northfield Mt. Hermon School. Until recently, she served as High Priestess at Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America (ladies auxiliary of the Shriners). "I am so lucky," she says. "My joints work." She recently told her doctor, who asked about her arthritis, "I have a joint in one finger that hurts part of a day, and that's about it." Recalling her Midd days she says, "I had but one interest in life: I wanted to be head waitress in the dining room at Bat Cot when I was a senior." And she made it. ✳ **Elizabeth "Betts" Mercer McChrystal** traveled from Carlsbad, Calif., to Cape Cod, Mass., to spend Mother's Day with daughter Meg and two of her sons. She writes, "Later that week, we drove up to North Fayston, Vt., to spend two days with my nephew. On the drive back to Cape Cod, we had lunch in North Andover with **Pat Noe Bursaw** in her retirement home dining room." (She has a beautiful apartment and the building and grounds are very attractive.) There was yet one more visit to a nephew in Mystic, Conn.! Betts's closing comment: "In spite of the rainy days on the Cape, off the Cape we had gorgeous days. I had a great visit." ✳ Mary and **John Cadwell** are delighted to see the development, this year, of their Pittsford, Vt., property, which they have turned over to their sons to manage. Their boys contracted with a young couple to run a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program on the land. These two hard-working folks live in a little house on the Cadwell property and work enthusiastically to raise chickens and pigs and acres of vegetables. In the CSA program (in case you're unfamiliar with it), people in the community invest in a farm at the beginning of a season. Then, after the growing season starts, they visit the farm each week to pick up their share of what's produced. The Cadwells are enjoying what they see as a great arrangement, which is turning out beautifully! "Especially," they confess, "since we're not exactly as energetic as the tireless two who run the program—all *we* have to do is watch!"

—Class Correspondents: *Ruth Wheaton Evans (rrwe@verizon.net), 80 Salisbury St., Unit 603, Worcester, MA 01609; Elizabeth Ring Hennefrund (eliz.bet@earthlink.net), 397 Old Sherman Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798.*

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In June, **Nona Fife Peck** and son Jim came to visit me en route to the family Lake Dunmore cabin. Nona had her scrapbook; fortunately she saved everything, and the College archives will be delighted with her accumulation from living in the town of Middlebury as well as being a student at the College. She went off to be a WAVE so did not share those last years with us. She says **Alan Wolfley** was one of her father's star students. She is trying to remember a girl in our class who also was. Any clues? ✳ Perhaps it was **Jessie Woodwell Bush**. Jessie writes, "About Prof. Fife, I was in his class but hardly a star student. His inspiring lectures did prompt me to major in economics. Another economics prof, Kirk Petshek, was responsible—many years later when he taught at Colgate—for a dinner in Washington where Arch and I met. Arch had attended Colgate. I've always felt that was the greatest benefit I enjoyed from the economics major. In June we enjoyed a visit from Arch's sister (from California), celebrating our two birthdays. We were joined by all our family for a great dinner in Tampa, Fla." ✳ I attended the memorial service for **Paula Knight Jeffries** at the family farm in Marlborough, N.H., and was moved by the airplane's releasing her and Donald's ashes over the beloved farmland. Paula was co-chair of the 50th reunion gift and we used 1941 as the goal to beat as that was her brother Walter's class. In 2011 we are proudly doing our part in annual giving with a participation of 74 percent, passing the 60 percent goal asked for by all alumni. ✳ **Ray Walch**'s sense of humor is alive and well describing life at home with Marion in an extensive mobile home park in Florida next door to the local high school. He requires "a walker for balance, but brain is still okay and vision fine. Marion drives, cooks, cleans, etc., and acts normally. We both eat three meals a day." Their five children are all doing well and they have 10 grandchildren from ages 24 down to 7. ✳ **Bob Brown** says there's not much to report from North Hill in Needham, Mass. They were planning to hold a family reunion on Crystal Lake in New Hampshire over the 4th of July with all 13 Browns in attendance, only two of whom went to Middlebury, he was sorry to report. "We did see **Don Gilmore** and his wife in early June and they were still going strong. These days, just being able to write this response is an accomplishment." ✳ **Gordon Mathews** sent a brief note. "I turned 88 on June 25. Old age is not for sissies." ✳ From Florida **Alice Southworth Twible** reports about "a leaky mitral valve, too late to do something about, some shortness of breath, but am able to carry on normal activities, cooking, yard work, etc., most of the time." She expressed sadness about the deaths of **Alan** and **Jo Higgins Wolfley**. ✳ **Dorothy Laux O'Brien** lets us know that **Jean Bender Heermans** has moved to assisted living in Clemmons, N.C. "**Binky**" and Dottie were roommates in Pearsons freshman year, "in the smallest room because we were the smallest persons there. We could even wear each other's clothes." Dottie is godmother of Jean's daughter, who reported the move for her mother. ✳ In response to my question, "What are you doing for fun?" I heard from the following three classmates. "**Nikki**" **Lacey Patterson** sent a list: 1) Daughter Cynthia was coming from Georgia to take her to visit her father's, his wife's, and her husband's graves in Linden, N.J., with a picnic for the first time since the 1960s; 2) she was going to dance recitals of granddaughter Deanna, who lives 10 miles north in Valley Cottage, N.Y., with daughter Martha; 3) she was listening to the wild stories son Andrew tells. He lives in Rochester, N.Y., and has 24 apartments in two buildings. ✳ In the heat of summer **Elaine King Dandh** responded, "It is 104 degrees in the Rio Grande Valley. For fun I go out in the cool of early morning to water the garden, and I swim in the pool in the evening. During the air-conditioned day I take time to read aloud to Kesari, a great audience, from the works of Cormac McCarthy, who dealt a lot with this part of the world. Some days I work on a magazine piece I'm writing on the joy of reading aloud good books. I'm looking forward to the fall when I can put in a new garden for the winter season. It's a crazy climate." ✳ **Janet Kemp Doell** said, "You hit me on a good day for asking me what I'm doing for fun. For one thing, this week I'm going to four operas in six days, in what may well be my last chance to see all the *Ring of the Nieberlung* (Wagner) at once. Last night was the first one, *Das Rheingold*, and it was fantastic. The San Francisco Opera is really outdoing itself. Tonight I go to the next one, *Die Walkure*. The other interesting thing I'm doing is trying to get a lichen named the California State Lichen. No other state has done that so far, although Georgia has one out for such an honor. Next month I'm off to Alaska for six weeks to visit kids and grandkids, nieces and nephews, etc." ✳ As for me in New Hampshire, this summer I enjoyed the visits of my family and friends coming through and the summer theater season of seven plays at Peterborough Players. Thanks for keeping in touch. Mew

—Class Correspondent: *Mary Elizabeth Wisotzkey McClellan (marylizl24@comcast.net), 124 RiverMead Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458.*

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It was a wonderful reunion! For those of you who were there, it was very special to see you again. For those of you who were not able to return, I will try to tell you a little about it. It was an absolutely gorgeous weekend (unlike the 60th) so we were able to walk to most activities or ride in the golf carts to see parts of the campus we had not seen before. Many of us had our sons and daughters with us. They seemed to have as much fun as we did. We had a choice of many presentations, including a conversation with the president. You can rest assured that the College is in good hands. He was very upbeat about all the goings-on at Middlebury. We visited the Solar Decathlon house, had our pictures taken, ate great meals with the class, went to a sing-along with the Class of '51 and walked up Chapel Walk with our banner for Convocation. We sit WAY down front these days. I asked some of your classmates to tell you about their time also. ✳ **Gloria Antolini Keyser** says, "Returning to Middlebury is ALWAYS a joyous and uplifting experience. What a pleasure it is to reunite with dear friends from those halcyon college years. But this year we had a special bonus. So many children chose to accompany us to reunion. The motivation was surely out of love, but also concern for our safety and welfare at age 85. I simply marvel at our progeny. What an attractive and accomplished brood we've spawned! They seemed to have so much fun getting to know each other—almost as much fun as we were having! It made Reunion 2011 extra special for me." ✳ **Jean Luckhardt Stratton** says, "It surely was a glorious, sunny weekend on the campus. There was something very special about seeing former classmates, learning about some of their accomplishments, and especially meeting the four or five daughters and the son who came with their mothers. Prof. Susan Percival was a delight to know as we shared a suite with the Percivals. We were so glad to see **Avery Post** who started with our class in September '42. He led us in a meaningful remembrance of those classmates who had died since our last reunion. We were reminded of 'The Strength of the Hills is His Also' as we paraded uphill from Old Chapel to Mead Chapel for Convocation. As we alums sang our alma mater, it was a stirring finale to an interesting, informative program bringing us into the 21st century of happenings at the College." ✳ **Joanne Davis Hohmeister** says, "It was wonderful to see and laugh with friends that we hadn't seen for at least five years. Middlebury treats us so beautifully,

with wonderful food, maps of campus (needed with so many new buildings), and especially with having students interact with us. The ones we met were interesting and intelligent, giving us hope for the future. Even the manned golf carts that took us from place to place were great. Everyone there seemed to be having a good time." ✷ **Sheila Schmidt Rowland** says, "Reunion was unadulterated joy for me. Having daughter Mary '82 with me was great. She knows me so well and we always have such fun together. She was glad to put faces to all the friends I have talked about through the years. My favorite happening, aside from the traditional ones, was attending the readings by faculty members Sophia Healy, Arthur's granddaughter, and John Canady, a poet. They had other books available and I have just finished *The Last Station* by Jay Parini, who teaches at the College. I haven't seen the movie with Helen Mirren and Christopher Plummer, but I'm going to e-mail Netflix. If I started to list classmates I'd go crazy because I was so happy to see all 21 of us. I thought we looked quite well-preserved." ✷ **Peg Romer Jones** was so disappointed not to gather up the get-go to be with us at reunion. (We're sorry, too.) She was able to escape the heat of Florida with a two-week trip to New Hampshire. Her hospital auxiliary took part in an all-night relay and walk for the American Cancer Society, held in the woods of the Central Florida Zoo. She did not spend the night sleeping under the stars, but did walk the two miles and raised some money for the cause. ✷ **Kay Craven** had a full summer of activities on Cape Cod. She belongs to a theater group and they have season tickets to the musicals and plays presented at the Cape Playhouse. Also, a well-known chamber music quintet comes to the Cape in August for concerts. She was also keeping busy with gardening, golf, and spending many hot summer days at the beach. Kay was one of the 21 who attended reunion. I know she had a great time because we drove up together from the Cape. ✷ **Barbara Flink Ewels** wrote to some of her Middlebury friends on the day of reunion saying how sorry she was not to be with us. She has been very busy and does not sleep too well, so she knew she couldn't manage sleeping in the dorm at Midd. She was, however, looking out over her beautiful lake in New Hampshire. She has a new kayak. The seat doesn't require you to have legs hidden straight under the bow. Apparently she had a hard time exiting that boat. Much laughter involved. I know the feeling. I have to fall out into the water to get out of mine. Much laughter here, too. ✷ **Mary Elizabeth Cummings Nordstrom** and Ev were very disappointed not to be with us for reunion, but they had a conflict that weekend with a smaller school in New Hampshire, where they were former faculty members. For her own pleasure, she is playing forties popular music at the piano for breakfast at Brandy's On The Rocks in Kennebunkport, Maine. This helps her keep in practice at the keyboard. She cannot discipline herself to practice unless it is for a purpose. This way her fingers won't suffer arthritis anytime soon. When she feels challenged in the joints she plays the piano at home. ✷ **Joan Campbell Shaw** sent a message after reunion: "This is a good opportunity to thank all for a very successful 65th! It was certainly wonderful to see classmates I hadn't seen for five years, as well as a couple that I've seen more recently. Needless to say, the absent ones were greatly missed. The College never looked better and the weather was perfect. Does anybody else remember Muckie (**Margaret Hood Kennedy**) Hood's beautiful song for step-singing? 'The green, the white and the blue of a Middlebury June'? Well, that's what it was like this year too. As for news—reunion was the high point of this, so far, humdrum year. Now most of our excitement revolves around our vegetable garden and our offspring and their children. We see them often now that summer vacation has begun. Our home is centrally located for them, which makes it a good headquarters for the high schoolers and their friends. We also run a pretty active taxi service! Future plans are vague but include a trip finally(!) to Montreal to see the botanical gardens, and our usual week at Drake's Island on the coast of southern Maine, where the whole family tries to squeeze into a large house with only four bedrooms. These days I find myself more and more dependent on Gamaliel Painter's cane!" ✷ **Mary Caswell Jones** has a new address: Summit View, 825 Runyan R.d., Chattanooga, TN 37405.

—Class Correspondent: *Janet Shaw Percival (wcpercival@comcast.net), 9726 SW 195 Circle, Dunnellon, FL 34432.*

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A note from **Nancy Surtees McKenna** said husband Joseph died this past March. She is doing well and keeping busy. She enjoys living with her son and his family in Virginia and is thankful that they made the move when they did. ✷ **Joanne Buckeridge Booth** was just back from her trip to Seattle when she wrote. She and her friend spent three days in Victoria in British Columbia, Canada, and enjoyed it immensely. They especially enjoyed their trip to the Butchart Gardens. They found it fun to be in a country so similar and yet so different from our own. ✷ From Colorado **Sally McCullough Sterritt** reported that they enjoyed a very pleasant reunion with their family. They met in Manitou Springs in the foothills south of Denver, an interesting small town with a lot of Victorian houses, one of which they stayed in. They took the cog railway to the top of Pike's Peak where it snowed but, fortunately, not for long. En route they observed an attractive group of young Asians, one of whom approached Sally and asked, "How old are you?" Somewhat taken aback Sally replied, "I don't remember." The young man then said, "You're young." Sally wasn't sure quite what to think of that but assumed it was complimentary. They also went to the zoo and fed and patted the giraffes and then saw the huge fish at Seven Falls. Sally takes great pride in her great-grandson, but he lives in Tennessee, so she does not see him as much as she would like. ✷ **Virginia "Jinny" Stowell James** is hanging in there as chaplain to her DAR chapter and as president of her Delta Kappa Gamma chapter because no one is willing to take over from her. She is still active in her church but no longer sings in the choir. She does almost everything for her husband who turned 101 in July, including all the driving and helping to publicize his book, which has just been published. The book, entitled *The Monetarists and the Evolving Crisis*, is available on his website, www.buildusanow.com. Jinny helped a lot with the editing and commentary. The only traveling they have done is to visit their daughter in Florida. When she wrote they were looking forward to spending the summer in their cottage in New Harbor, Maine. Jinny hopes to attend our 65th reunion next June. ✷ **Barbara "Bobbie" Bates Lauterwasser** and her husband took a delightful 4,600-mile trip to Florida, visiting friends and family along the way. They spent a week with their son and daughter-in-law in St Petersburg. While there they went to Venice to visit their friends Bob and **Marjie Nelson Bench** and enjoyed catching up with family news. They feel blessed to be "chugging along at 87 and 85" and are thankful for their families, including one in Massachusetts (Bruce '73) and one in Colorado (Ralph '71). Their sons provide them with support and they, in return, entertain their friends whenever visiting during the summer. ✷ **Margaret "Peggy" Armstrong Igleheart** was leaving July 1 for Greensboro, Vt., where she lived for 57 years. She now lives in a fine retirement home called Seabury in Bloomfield, Conn. There is only one other Middlebury alum there. She keeps busy as chair of the Hospitality Committee, which welcomes newcomers, and holds parties, etc. She had a lot of fun as lead in the biennial music production and says fortunately she did not have to sing, only speak. This is a joint production of residents and staff and "is a wonderful way to get the two groups together." Peggy helps out playing for chapel services twice a week. Seabury encourages all to be physically active, so she participates in hiking, cross-country skiing, and "groaning with an exercise class three times per week." She plays bridge with people from Bloomfield, Simsbury, and Farmington. She has joined a local church and lunches with members of our class in Vermont, an outgrowth of our 50th reunion. She has two sons, one in Singapore and one in Columbia, S.C. When their father died they decided that "Mom should live near their sister in Bristol, Conn." She had thought to retire to the new facility in Middlebury, but that is still not finished. ✷ I have received news of the death of **Shirley Woodward Myers-Thurston** on April 15 and **Ruth Brittain Gore** on May 22. Our condolences are sent to their families. I also received a letter from the children of **Mary Pitz Hunt** informing me of her death on June 17. I think it worth repeating a paragraph from that letter as it says so much about her. "Mom was such a sweet lady and such an important part of our lives. She was a wonderful example of growing old gracefully. Despite many physical issues in the last months of her life, she rarely complained and was so appreciative of what she was still able to do for herself and of anything we did for her. She continued to marvel at the little things in life, such as watching birds and other wildlife, and simply enjoying being with family." Our sympathy goes out to her family.

—Class Correspondent: *Jeannette Atkins Louth (umjalouth@comcast.net), 99 Depot Road West, West Harwich, MA 02671.*

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Don and **Louise Gerlitz Ebner** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June. Lou wrote that there are no more overseas travels—only to NYC and upstate New York to see relatives. Locally she plays bridge twice a week, holds a Bible study in their home two to three times a month, maintains 59 house plants, and visits nursing homes several times a month. They also dine out frequently. ✷ Jim '47 and **Iris Forst Brucks** are devoted theater and museum attendees and Iris enjoys golf and has become an avid duplicate bridge player. She sees **Kathy Rapp Nathan** frequently. ✷ From the South (sort of) comes word from **Ann Clarke Curley** that unfortunately she continues to be immobilized as the result of a stroke several years ago. Thanks to husband Bob, Ann is able to remain at home in her living room and she does quiet things. They live in Virginia, not far from Washington, D.C., and continue to be busy in politics. They both enjoy *Middlebury Magazine*, and Ann finds this a great way to keep up with everyone she knew at Midd. ✷ Our condolences to **Elaine Pankopf Cummings** whose husband of 56 years, Don, died last Thanksgiving. Elaine has three children and

seven grandchildren, and several are either practicing physicians or in medical school. And more medical news: Elaine has joined the Class of '48 Joint Club, having had two total knee replacements. ✷ Pictures of Angkor Wat in Cambodia finally came to life for Norm and **Stemmy (Adele Stemmler) Taylor** in January. They toured several of the magnificent 12th-century temple complexes, including the most famous, Angkor Wat. Then they set sail down the Mekong River through Vietnam to Saigon. Highlights: walks through traditional villages and markets, seeing many homes, a church, school, basketball court (!), and police station literally floating on the river. Their trip was greatly enhanced by marvelous lectures from their guide from the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, the sponsor of the trip. ✷ We have sad news: **Alice Deininger Kreider** died on February 23 and **Ellie Flanagan Branch** died on April 30. Also Dennett Buettner, son of **Arthur** and **Ann Tisdale Buettner**, sent notice that Art died on June 19. Art and Ann had been living in Maine, but due to ill health, they had moved to Pennsylvania in early June to be near their son. Ann's address is c/o Dennett Buettner, 216 Robinson Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Her telephone number is 412-572-7455 and she would enjoy hearing from old friends and acquaintances. Our condolences are sent to the families of our deceased classmates.

—Class Correspondents: *Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness (elizabeth.ness@verizon.net), 412 N. Wayne Ave., #109, Wayne, PA 19087; Sandy Rosenberg (inspacepro@aol.com), 628 Commons Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825.*

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Correspondent **Dixon Hemphill** reports: **Alan Erickson** writes, "Thanks for accepting this responsibility." (He's referring to my position as class correspondent and it's nice to know some classmates appreciate our work.) "June (Andersen) '50 and I still live in Needham, Mass. Four grown kids are all doing well and have provided 10 grandchildren." (June and I also have four kids but only nine grandchildren.) "Our greatest joy is the beauty of life, man's creativity, and the realization of the success of the characters of the children we have raised. The addition we put on our house in 1991 makes it possible for us to live 'outdoors' year-round and enjoy the fruits of June's horticultural skills and our daughter's landscaping sense. The downside is advancing problems with memory. *C'est la vie.*" Who in their mid-eighties these days does not have memory problems, but compared to physical setbacks, forgetting names and dates is really not that bad. ✷ I am sorry to report that several of our classmates have recently died. **Allen Perry** passed away on March 26, **Maurice Lahue** died on April 3, **Dan Muessel** died on May 16, and **Donald Simon** died on May 19. My condolences go to their families. ✷ Correspondent **Rachel Adkins Platt** reports: Thanks to good old technology, the telephone, I was able to gather some interesting news on our fellow classmates. **Barbara "Buzz" Myers White** described a wonderful and exciting cruise she went on this past spring with a friend. They were in the Mediterranean, starting in Venice, stopping in places such as Tunisia, Sicily, Barcelona, and ending in Seville, Spain. The main theme of the trip was music. She said there were seven musicians—two pianists, two flutists, a violinist, violist, and cellist—and concerts every day that were delightful and beautiful. What a unique trip. She is still enjoying the ski slopes in the winter and had a tennis game the next morning when I talked to her. ✷ In talking with **Kay Mulligan**, she also described a fun cruise in which she and husband **Pat** were on a barge in France that went from Nice to Paris, where they spent several days and enjoyed all that Paris has to offer. She says they now have two great-grandchildren, a three-year-old girl and a one-year-old boy. She feels the great-granddaughter has all the potential of being a future thespian. She walks into a room with all the presence in the world. They were in the Virgin Islands in March with their family (at least 13) and had fun sailing, swimming, and snorkeling as well as enjoying just being together. ✷ Slipping over to the male side of the class, I was able to have a nice conversation with **Dave Thompson**, who told me how much he and Perry (Maurer) '48 love spending two months each winter in Costa del Sol, Spain. What a delight to escape the cold winters of Vermont. They have a grandson who just graduated from the Univ. of Montana and another to follow in his footsteps next year. I asked what the attraction was to the school. He replied that many from the area go there and really love the school and get a great education. ✷ I had a nice visit with my brother, **Leon "Lee" Adkins**, this spring when he and his wife Bonnie came to visit from Vermont. He was here for a retirement celebration for a fellow Methodist minister in the area. We had a lot of fun over the weekend discussing past events as well as future ideas and we had plenty of laughs. He and Bonnie continue to keep very busy and involved in the town of Middlebury. They have also joined the ranks of great-grandparents with a lovely great-granddaughter, Ella, who they see quite often. ✷ **Janey Baker** and I have been sharing e-mails and she has now found her way on Facebook. Again I encourage you all to look into it. It's a great way to communicate with family and friends. ✷ And now, on to the joys of modern technology. In June, I and daughter Holly Platt Hubregsen '78 had the pleasure of watching my grandson and her nephew, Jack-Georges Onnie Platt (20 mos.), at a celebration of his baptism at St. Clouds restaurant in Seattle, Wash. Jack's dad is John Platt '80, MA English '91 and the owner of the restaurant. (Anyone visiting or living in Seattle, stop in. He would love to see you just to chat and reminisce about Middlebury.) The modern technology part is that Holly and I were sitting in my home in Pittsford, N.Y., and John, his wife, Sandra, two sons Wilson (a freshman at Vassar) and Jack, and all the celebrants were in Seattle. Thanks to Skype and our computers we were able to see and talk to each other throughout the ceremony. A good friend of the family, Robert Fulghum, who wrote *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* and many other books, was the minister. It was a joyful and momentous event and we felt like we were really there! ✷ All for now. I would love any contact from you fellow classmates for the next issue with the deadline in three months!

—Class Correspondents: *Dixon Hemphill (dixonH1925@cox.net), 10910 Olm Dr., Fairfax Station, VA 22039; Rachel Adkins Platt (rplatt27@gmail.com), 34 Tobey Brook, Pittsford, NY 14534.*

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Correspondent **Corky Elwell** reports: **Ross Cowan** called and we had an extensive conversation regarding the stagnated national political situation, observing mature, responsible adults can't do the jobs they fought so hard to obtain. A conversation with **Wally Hubbard** echoed the same discussion. Wally thinks we should fire them all. For fun Wally plays piano at nursing homes in the Hot Springs, Ark., area. How well I remember Wally tinkling the ivories at Middlebury parties. ✷ **Ed Harter** was surviving the 110-degree temperature in Phoenix, Ariz., when we talked in July. He is well and enjoying life in the great Southwest. ✷ **Walt Paterson** reports that he and **John O'Connor** decided not to play in the Gordy Perine golf tournament this year. (Eighteen holes is just too long.) Walt plays golf daily in Port Saint Lucie, Fla., and says that his average score is now his exact age. ✷ **Steve Welch** keeps busy playing summer concerts with the town band and enjoying family gatherings. Steve would like to hear from any classmates. He is still located on Lake Champlain in Vergennes, Vt. ✷ I'm sad to report the death of two classmates: **Will Carey** on April 17 and **George Shumway** on May 1. Our sympathy goes out to the families of Will and George. ✷ Correspondent **Sally Peek Nelson** reports: I talked with **Claire Dufault Wilson**, who lives in a townhouse in Wellesley, Mass. (In case you're wondering, Claire moved on long ago from nicknames and is no longer Clicky.) She's retired but is actively involved in volunteer work. She lost one child at age 12 but has two remaining children and one granddaughter. She remained close friends with classmates who roomed in Forest Hall freshman year and who, after graduation, lived nearby in Massachusetts: **Kathy Pell Meeker**, **Anne Meyer Marshall**, the late **Marnie Marvin Hubbard**, and the late **Peg Stearns Burdett**. She recently spoke with Kathy and with Marnie's widower, Ed Hubbard '48. Claire worked as a psychiatric social worker for 35 years; she particularly worked with people with severe mental illness and handicaps, and she helped them to live independently. With many Middlebury people in the Boston area, Claire has met some in fortuitous ways. She met a fellow social worker in the same department who turned out to be the daughter of Prof. Waldo Heinrichs, who taught us all the required Contemporary Civilization. Claire and **Carol Carlton Spooner** also discovered they both had granddaughters in the Class of 2006 at Dana Hall School. ✷ As many of us are discovering at this point in our lives, it is vital to avoid falls. **Janet McIntosh Straley**, in the middle of her busy and healthy life, fell two years ago, injured her rotator-cuff, was operated on, went through lots of physiotherapy, and is getting better and stronger now—but it's been a long haul. She plans to be able to drive herself again soon and not have to continue relying on family and friends. She has a daughter who lives in the same town, three sons (one went to Middlebury) who live out West, and six grandchildren. We talked about the pleasures and safety factors of living in a continuing care facility like Kendal at Hanover, where I live. There are a number of Middlebury people at Kendal: **Phil Porter**, Avery Post '46, and Hugh Taft '44. Besides grads, there are other Midd people as well: Jim Armstrong, Midd president from 1963–1975, and Caroline Freeman, daughter of Prof. Stephen Freeman. Getting to know a whole new community is oddly like going off to Middlebury—fun and exciting.

—Class Correspondents: *Corwin Elwell, 119 Harris Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301; Sally Peek Nelson, 80 Lyme Rd., #315, Hanover, NH 03755.*

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Our 60th reunion was a most congenial reunion weekend, and we did so miss all of you who could not return. Each ceremony seemed poignant. The Reunion Parade was fun (!). We assembled on the sidewalk on Old Chapel Road—1951 was rather nearer to the top of the line—and once in the building it was impressive how packed the chapel was. You not there may well remember the almost constant thump, thump, thump of Gamaliel Painter's Cane

as we sing his song accompanying class entrances to the building. Convocation included honors within many classes, including ours, which **Don Sherburne** mentioned in the companionable letter he sent us all about the highlights of the weekend. We enjoyed President Liebowitz's enthusiastic talk. Convocation was followed by the class receptions/banquets, ours held in the Mahaney Center for the Arts lobby in rather angular seating arrangements that provided both confidential confabs and easy meandering to facilitate talking with everyone! Sunday breakfast in Redfield Proctor dining hall saw most of us congregated at a couple of tables, a tad reluctant to bring to an end the friendships and reconnections of the weekend. We'll list last names of all classmates attending: Armour, new honorary member Joan Axinn, Bigelow, Britton, Calkins, Coates, Coleburn, Davis, DeLaney, Deming (2), Figgatt, Gregg, Higgins (2), Hunt, Jackson, Jacobs, Mansfield, McArthur, McIntosh, Moger, Morris, Nelson, Newman, Parker, Prinn, Ross, Shammash, Sherburne, Sommers, Thomas, Watson, and Woods! ✷ Don's letter spoke of the much-appreciated reading by Prof. Gary Margolis '67 of **Don Axinn**'s poetry, which brought his presence so clearly to mind. After the reading we had a memorial honoring all our deceased classmates. **Bill (Deming)** had made small cards on the computer, each of which had one name on it, and he passed them around for everyone to take, and then each person took a turn reading aloud the names he or she held for all of us to remember. Always there was a murmur of recognition and memory. Very moving. We'd done something similar a few years ago and our 60th reunion seemed like a very special time to once again remember those people as a class. ✷ There were some elements of humor in our weekend: During the golf 9-holer, a perfect memory will be that of **Tommy Jacobs** running downhill trying to catch a runaway golf cart! ✷ And speaking of golf carts, Bill and I (**Phyllis**) were walking from Gifford one evening to an activity at the Axinn Center when students in a golf cart drove by and stopped to offer us a ride. We said sure and climbed onto the back where the clubs usually go. I had never ridden in a golf cart, and boy, it's a wonder we, or rather I, survived. VERY BUMPY over the campus and I kept thinking as I tried to sit in the metal seat that the next bump would send me right off the end into the evening. In retrospect, it was very funny! A new vehicular experience. ✷ We missed **John Walsh** at reunion but he had written that he was "in the Parkinson's club these days" and stays fairly close to home. He remembered that Bill was one of the first people he got to know when they were housemates on Franklin Street freshman year, and he was one of the last he had dealings with at Middlebury when he was leaving for Europe in the spring of '51 and made the transfer of the venerable '38 Plymouth to Bill. He recalled "hoping that the car would not inopportunely give up the ghost so that you would forever think of me as a devious used-car salesman." He went on to say how glad he was that the GI Bill is what landed him at Middlebury. After college he had a long, enjoyable career in journalism, mostly in Washington, D.C., with extended side trips to Europe and West Africa. About the car, John—it took us from Vermont to Connecticut to Kentucky, and on our Western trip via Yellowstone and the Badlands, to San Francisco, the Redwood forests, Oregon, and finally a year in Seattle. ✷ **Ellie Hight Morris** telephoned to exclaim how great it was to see everybody and how she missed those not there. She spoke, too, of the 9-hole sign-up for golf where everyone had fun playing. The weather was perfect all weekend, which hadn't been the usual in Vermont before then. Ellie also expressed, for the record, her thank you for our writing the class notes, "beyond the call of duty, a great job." ✷ **Anne Moreau Thomas** has a granddaughter at Middlebury who loves it and is the fourth generation of the Moreau family to be there. We know that Anne's husband, the late **Seely Thomas Jr**, an economics major, a Chi Psi, and a most admirable Mountain Club member for four years (I, Phyllis, crumped out after one) would be proud that this granddaughter is the sixth generation of the Thomas family to attend Middlebury. ✷ We chatted with Norm Armour '53. He and **Joan Allen Armour** feel fortunate that their two sons live in California and each has a beach house 10 miles from Joan and Norm's retirement home. They still travel, now mostly in the U.S. ✷ **Barbara Pike Prinn** is happy in her new retirement community in Concord, N.H., and feels so blessed with her 10 (out of 12) living kids, foster, adopted, and one biological. In a note she wrote for us at the last breakfast of our weekend, she declared, "Loved our 60th reunion!" ✷ Jim and **Mary Sellman McIntosh** live in a mid-size house with two dogs, a golden retriever and a bassett, in Simsbury, Conn. They also have a home in Lincoln, Vt., which led Jim to declare them the "yo-yo twins." They had to leave reunion early because friends Homer and Dottie were visiting on their way to see a granddaughter at Williams. Homer went to high school with **Bob DeLaney**. ✷ Lucy and **Van Parker** were at reunion for only a few hours Saturday. We were sorry to miss them, but his e-mail commented how nice it was to have a room of our own in Gifford for '51ers to register and visit. They talked with **Don Sherburne**, and later **Barb Prinn**, and had kind words for how welcoming the three students were who took care of us and our thirst for water bottles and for answers to questions, and directed us to a table of information and take-home papers for our class. Van was sad to hear of the death of **Dick Perry**, yet considered how fortunate we are that so many are still around! ✷ We regret reporting the death on June 11 of **Malcolm MacGregor**. **Roly Coates** remembers Mal as a person with a ready smile and a good sense of humor. The last sentence Mal wrote in our 50th Reunion book in 2001 is a fitting tribute to his life: "My three daughters are grown young ladies now and I have five incredible, healthy, and fascinating grandchildren who remind me every day that this life is the greatest adventure a person could have." ✷ We had a lot of reunion news! So more of it will appear in the winter column. ✷ And now it's time for us to step down as the class correspondents and welcome your new correspondents, **Lee Webster McArthur** (rlmca@verizon.net) and **Beth Huey Newman** (bethhueynewman@gmail.com). We hope classmates will send notes to them saying something about parts of the weekend you loved and we didn't even mention! We do want to close giving heartfelt thanks to **Jim** and Ann McGinley '53 **Ross** for their many years of serving us Sunday brunch atop their hill with the spectacular view from the deck. We wish them speed and good fortune in the sale of that home and the moving to their new one. Thanks for all your support and news the past five years!

—Class Correspondents: *William and Phyllis Cole Deming (bding2351@comcast.net), 143 Marsett Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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Correspondent **Ken Nourse** reports: I find that e-mails do not work for the men of '52. SO, I resort to phone calls. I confess that I do not know area codes. That means if I call you at breakfast, I apologize. This happened with **Jim Cooley**, who lives in Idaho. Fortunately, he was "cool" about it. Jim lives on a 100-acre homestead. Livestock? He has two sheep that are charged with keeping the grass around the house attractive. Jim retired from the faculty of the Univ. of Idaho after 35 years in the chemistry dept. He has had two heart surgeries but says, "They patched me up so I'm pretty well now." He has two grands living in Idaho and two stepchildren. My take on Jim is that the timbre of his voice is good, he has a keen sense of humor ("the first 80 years are the best"), and he has a healthy outlook on life. Keep on truckin', Jim. ✷ I talked with **Peter Flickinger** who wishes all good luck. He has two daughters and a son and a pair of "lousy knees." He prefers not to share more of his personal life and I respect his wishes. I guess it proves we are all different. ✷ A conversation with **Bob Gyzander** reveals that he went through hell caring for his wife for eight years of Alzheimer's. She ended up passing away in May 2010. Bob said his dad was 99 and 10 months when he died. The genes suggest Bob will be around for some time longer. The experience has drained Bob physically, emotionally, and financially. It was a tough phone call. ✷ **Dave Hemphill** sounded upbeat but, like Pete, chose not to share personal information. He has been retired since 1992. ✷ **Bob Martin** e-mailed that he and his wife still enjoy living on the shore in East Lyme, Conn. Their children and grands live near enough for frequent visits. They busy themselves by repairing, painting, and varnishing small boats at the Mystic Seaport Boathouse. They tell curious visitors that they sit around the big, old pot-bellied stove and tell lies. Bob and **King Woodward** are planning on attending our 60th next June. Bob writes, "God willing, we'll be there." I might add that goes for all of us. ✷ Speaking of reunion, **Bill Huey** and I are all done in June 2012 as class correspondents for the men so you all might want to think a bit about succession. We have enjoyed the conversations but it is time for somebody else to take over. ✷ Correspondent **Barbara Cummiskey Villet** reports: A long conversation with **Nancy Berquist Kinne** proved again that life at 80 or so can be super rich. She gets up four mornings a week to tee off at a Boulder, Colo., golf course at 5:30. The early-bird action derives from wanting to be alone on the course before anyone else clutters up the greens, and she plays two balls all the way through. She continues with similar intensity through much of the rest of her life. Two nights a week she goes to a Lindy Hop dance group but confesses that if it's a dance night after a golf morning, she may rest in the afternoon. When it's not golf, it's skiing; she racked up 30 days of downhill last winter and, just to flavor the whole thing, is also absorbed in growing orchids and being a full-time cat person with three cat pals. Before this stage in her life, she lived through another that saw her rewarded with a Rockefeller grant. It came as a result of her career teaching art at a Boulder middle school. In that life phase she developed a textbook entitled *Exploring Painting* that not only earned her the grant but is still earning royalties. Nancy holds three degrees up through her PhD in psychology and believes she's added another doctorate equivalency on her own by reading so much history. She credits her voracious reading habits with having led her to be a fiscal and political conservative in a town that is highly progressive. Along with all the intense activity, she also presently pursues the delights of her Mac G-4 with sessions at the Apple store to keep up

class

with all the incredible new stuff happening. Having the computer has opened a whole new chapter of excitement but she also credits her lasting good health and her pleasure in the company of three cats. ✷ As it happens, cats figure heavily in **Peg Lewis West**'s life as well. She has three—one of whom wandered off when she moved from her longtime home near Syracuse, N.Y., into a condo. In the space of the cat's absence, her husband, Sandy, succumbed to a heart attack and Peg found herself rebuilding her life alone after two hip replacement surgeries. And then the cat nonchalantly returned home and provided her with a renewed sense of continuity and laughter by his antics of climbing to the roof of a neighboring condo complex to stare down at the occupants and animals inside thru skylights. But cats are far from all of it for Peg. For 15 years she volunteered in a refugee resettlement program and also with the AARP tax assistance program where husband Sandy was also active. Meanwhile, she also became a dirt diva, raising hundreds of tomato plants under grow lights in her basement to give to her church for sale. Still at it, she raised and gave 80 this spring despite growing knee difficulty as a result of the hip surgeries. But like Nancy, she insists on going on unfazed. She has a saying posted on her refrigerator to pass along: "Our world is full of cactuses, but you don't have to sit on them." ✷ Finally, after earlier failed attempts to connect with **Paula Loughran Zahniser**, we had a long productive exchange by phone. Paula is a survivor—big time. She got through non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2003, and though she lost her husband that same year, has gotten on with LIVING wonderfully. After a career as the event coordinator for the Univ. of Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery (considered among the finest in the state outside of the Met in NYC), she signed on as a docent and has continued full steam with programs for children in schools, public tours, and special party events at the museum. As an aside, she took up tap dancing again—a pursuit that began in grade school—in an effort to improve her balance, which was slightly impaired during her illness. And then this past May, she experienced one of those crowning events when daughter Dulce arranged a trip together to Europe. First stop was Rome, which Paula loved, followed by a luxury cruise of the Mediterranean that took them to Genoa, to a day trip into the hill towns, and to Cannes during the film festival, where the Sultan of Brunei's yacht was parked next door. Then on to the Tunisian coast, where they toured Carthage before visiting the American military cemetery with its thousands of GI graves, beautifully tended by local caretakers. Next came Sicily, where they sailed past Mt. Etna putting on its smoky show before docking in Palermo, with a final stop in wonderful Barcelona, all polished up in post-Olympic splendor. Gaudì architecture didn't thrill Paula—too many gargoyles. Finally, Paula brought me up to date on **Jeanne Parker Cahill**'s family; the boys have kept their mother's close connection with Paula and she learned that the six Cahill men and six Cahill grandsons have at last been joined by a little girl—adopted by Jeanne and **Bill Cahill**'s son Tim '91 and wife Kathy. Paula's connection with the Cahills has added more kids to her own group of grandchildren (two boys over 6'4" and twin girls who are avid skiers) and she revels in all of them.

—Class Correspondents: *William Huey (judgebill@hargray.com), 6 Barony Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29928; Ken Nourse (gumpk@comcast.net), 22 Little Pond Rd., Middlebury, VT 05753; Barbara Cummiskey Villet (villetb@sover.net), 208 Eagleville Rd., Shushan, NY 12873.*

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Charles and **Sue Valentine Jennings** live in Shelburne, Vt., where they spend their summers, and in the winter they go to Boynton Beach, Fla., on the east coast south of West Palm Beach. They used to go to Lake George and Saratoga Springs, N.Y., in the summer. Sue enjoys spending time gardening and with their grandchildren. Middlebury has been a big part of their family. Sue's sister was a senior our freshman year; all three of Sue and Chuck's children went to Midd; and their grandson, Peter, is a senior this fall and is studying in Prague. Their granddaughter earned a medical technician degree in Bozeman, Mont., and now works in a hospital. Sue and Chuck see **Irv** and Ellie Hight '51 **Morris** and **Norm** and Joan Allen '51 **Armour**, and they have also seen **Don Beers** for golfing, and Ken Nourse '52 and **Pat Hamilton Todd** at their place in Middlebury. ✷ **Mary Mulhall** has lived in Matawan, N.J., for 47 years. Sounds like a great location! She has three children and eight grands. Their families from Doylestown, Pa., Howell, N.J., and Oklahoma City all used to camp in Maine and have camped also in Colorado outside Estes Park and in Steamboat Springs. This year they were planning to vacation in Maine again. Mary has not returned to Midd, but has fond memories of her Midd years. She has been in contact with **Cynthia Cannon White**, who also has never been back to Middlebury. She had also been in touch with the late **Nancy Drummond Kiger** and the late **Nancy Bush Beekman**, who died in an auto accident in 2003. Mary recalls seeing "old folks at reunions and now *we* are there—almost!" ✷ **Laura Chapman Rico** of Los Banos, Calif., works part time at Merced Community College, where she has taught math and has coordinated the developmental tutorial services for 30 years. Her late husband managed a mobile home park and they were involved in Christian education in Alaska; recently Laura worked one week in the vacation bible school in Alaska where she has gone for the past 19 years! She has a daughter, May, who majored in sociology, specializing in domestic violence issues. She now schedules local tutoring. Laura has been in touch in the past with **Pat Heap Rockwell**, whose husband **Charlie** died in 2007. She has also been in touch with **Phyllis Knapp Thomas** and her sister, and **Debbie Ellis McIntire** in Tennessee and **Clemie Wininger Gregory** in Asheville, N.C. ✷ **Howard Rogers** in Orinda, Calif., has a new knee as of last September and is doing well. He and his wife spend a lot of time with their two daughters and a grandchild who is 17 and a senior in high school. They live within an hour's drive in northern California. Howard has never been back to Midd, but he has been in touch with **Nancy Peck Royce** in Wisconsin. He studied math two years at Midd, majored in sociology, and did graduate studies at Columbia in business, which he enjoyed. He lived in Pennsylvania, in Erie, Ridgway, and Johnstown; worked four years in D.C. at American Hospital distribution center, and transferred to southern California to do new product development in Pharmaseal sterile products. He also worked in Colorado and now he is fully retired. ✷ When I reached **Barbara Brown Power** in Cohasset, Mass., she said her husband had died after being sick with cancer, and though it was very sad, he had a great life. She herself feels well and is happy in Cohasset. She has four children, one being a 1978 Midd grad, and six grandchildren, one being a 2011 Midd grad. Like many of us, Barbara has retired from a huge amount of things she once did! She was very involved with the library and active in the church and community. She does not have much contact with Middlebury but did attend our 50th reunion and she reports there are many Midd folks in the Cohasset area. ✷ **Neil Cross** of Contoocook, N.H., reports that he is fine but getting old and tiring too quickly. Of course, working outside in his garden weeding takes a toll. He raised tomatoes, peppers, beans, peas, and lettuce this year and I'm sure they tasted better than supermarket produce! His wife, 20 years younger than he, teaches. His kids are not nearby but son Kip in Boston flies up often to see Neil. Daughter Andrea is in Massachusetts and daughter Jennifer is in Vermont. Son Mike died 10 years ago. The last time Neil was at Midd was 15 years ago at fall Homecoming. He hasn't been in touch with Midd folks but reads the magazines. He says he had a very enjoyable time in college. After graduating he served in the military then worked in education, where he taught high school, was a principal, and was a superintendent for 20 years. He retired 15 years ago. He has enjoyed going to NYC now and then. ✷ **Leonard Teagle** attended Midd for two years, where he enjoyed skiing, and **Dick Fenton** and the late **Wes Dunn** were his roommates. Then he went to Stanford for two years, where he graduated. He majored in political science and was in ROTC during the Korean War. He spent three years in the Air Force and also earned his MBA. Now he lives in Rancho Santa Fe near San Diego. He has done research on fast-growing eucalyptus trees to be used for railroad ties. He married a childhood friend in 1981 and has one son. He returned to Midd for our 40th reunion in 1993. He had been in touch with **Roberta Pfaff Lonergan**, who had 12 or 13 children. ✷ It is always fun to talk with classmates, who willingly share their stories. I had so many this time that some will appear in the winter issue.

—Class Correspondent: *Janet Bradley Harris (drharris52@gmail.com), 1 North Ridge, Ballston Lake, NY 12019.*

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Correspondent **Diane Schwob Strong** reports: I e-mailed several of my classmates that I had not been in communication with for a very, very long time and was delighted to hear back from a few. **Nadine Axinn Heyman**, who was my roommate freshman year at the Château, wrote, "WOW, out of the past. What a pleasant surprise. Actually, I left Middlebury in the middle of our junior year to get married—my husband was in the Army at the time and I then graduated from Barnard College in NYC. However, I always thought of Middlebury as my alma mater. After all, I was a married commuting student at Barnard, so not particularly involved with the college. Also, my brother Don '51, you might remember, was a student at Middlebury at the time and he eventually built a second home in the area and became quite involved. So, I sort of kept some kind of vague contact with the school. And it happens that last fall I wrote a letter to the editor, which was published in the winter 2011 issue of *Middlebury Magazine*, and I received a response from the current Hillel chaplain. One of my granddaughters, a high school junior, is applying to Middlebury so I have also been thinking of the school in reference to her. I never attended any of the reunions, feeling kind of like an outsider since I left early. But here in a nutshell is what I have been doing over the last 58 years! I married David, in 1953, a wonderful man who died suddenly in 1994. I didn't understand how I could keep breathing after that, but of course I did and five years later had a lovely second relationship with another man for five years. He unfortunately died while we were traveling in Japan. I don't expect

to be so lucky again and think singlehood is my future. David and I had four terrific sons and I now have six perfect grandchildren. Along the way, I founded and was the director of an alternative high school for 30 years, a very successful program that I was able to replicate in the next county. I retired in 1997 to be able to spend more time with my grandchildren, and I began to travel to third-world countries. Three or four years ago, I began to get interested in photography and now take photography trips and belong to a photography club, which pushes me." ✳ **Elinor "Lannie" Osborne Gartner** responded, "On August 3, Rod and I celebrated 54 years of marriage. We have four children and 10 grandchildren and now a new granddaughter-in-law. We live at the Masonic Village at Sewickley, Pa. It's a continuing care retirement community. Before the Masons took over I had been on the Valley Care Assoc. Board, which built the nursing home part of the community. This interest can be linked to my training at the Boston School of Occupational Therapy after four years at Middlebury. I'm still active on many community boards and committees. My tennis is at a standstill after having a total knee replacement a year ago. The surgery was successful but I want to keep on going—lugging our stuff back and forth from Canada each summer, going to the fitness center, and enjoying life in general." ✳ From **Marcia Kraft Goin** in L.A. I heard, "I'm still doing the combination of half-time private practice and half-time teaching at USC Department of Psychiatry with the official title of director of psychotherapy education. Just to keep busy I now have five grandchildren, ages four on down, and both daughters, plus husbands and children, live nearby. I get to the New York area twice a year for the meeting of GAP—no, not the jeans but the Group for Advancement of Psychiatry, kind of psychiatry's think tank. I have also had the pleasure of seeing **Monica Dorr Burdeshaw** during trips to Washington, D.C., where the American Psychiatric Assoc. is located, and **Nan Wright Reuther**." ✳ On April 24, **Juliette "Judy" Camden Kinghan** died. We were bridesmaids for each other, lived in Germany after our marriages, and remained good friends, although she lived in California and I in Texas. We exchanged Christmas cards and kept up with each other's lives. Several years ago, when I was in California, we had lunch and reminisced about our lives and times. It's difficult to believe that we are at a time in our lives where our friends will leave us—however, the memories and good times we had will remain always. ✳ Correspondent **Nancy Whittemore Nickerson** reports: From **Jaycee Cole Miller** comes this e-mail: "I had a lovely lunch with **Cecily Mattocks Marshall** and **Jean Tibbetts Pentland** recently at the new retirement complex they and their husbands have moved to called The Willows in Worcester, Mass." ✳ From the heart of Texas comes word from my old cohort, **Tom Ryan**, when I begged for news. "All goes well in the steaming Southwest! Temperatures and the economy are up, and unemployment is down. (Let's hear three cheers for fracking and horizontal drilling!) The drought we are suffering through will, as usual, probably be ended with a hurricane. We are still traveling a lot; some in the northeastern U.S. and Canada, some in the Southwest, all fascinating." They also had plans to go to Greece and Turkey in September. He adds, "The health of both of us is still good; the kneecap that I fractured skiing at Beaver Creek last year is healing nicely and has been pronounced 'skiable' by doctors at the Steadman Hawkins Clinic in Vail, so we may give it a go again in February. I still have my pilot's license, am IFR rated, and current. Passing the physical gets more exciting each year! The alumni organization in Houston is fairly active, with a meeting every year or so. The recent graduates we meet are a remarkable lot, with experience and drive that are impressive. One young lady (Class of 2009) from Beijing was with Teach for America in the Houston Independent School District, teaching math in an inner city school. She recently completed her two-year contract and has been accepted at the Sloan School at MIT for her MBA. Wow! In closing, let's all stay active and stay connected!" ✳ Yours truly, Whit, had two grands graduate from high school this year—one is at Tufts now and the other is at Wesleyan—a new chapter in their lives that we will watch with great interest. ✳ E-mails are so easy—Diane and I are waiting for yours!

—Class Correspondents: *Nancy Whittemore Nickerson (forger@prodigy.net), 4 Osprey Ln., Mystic, CT 06355; Diane Schwob Strong (dhstrong@att.net), 201 Vanderpool Ln., Apt. 142, Houston, TX 77024.*

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Correspondent **Sally Dickerman Brew** reports: **Nancy Grimm White** had just returned to her Bedford, N.Y., home after spending some weeks at her home in the Bahamas when she answered my phone call. Living next to Nature Conservancy land in Bedford, she is frequently visited by wildlife such as deer, turkeys, and smaller birds. Animals are very big in her life, including two stray cats that she cares for. After a life of living around the world, raising children, and being involved in organizations, she is very contented now to enjoy her good friends, her family, and the animals about her. In her reflection about Middlebury, Nancy says she was greatly influenced by Arthur Healy and continues to enjoy doing her own painting. The years at Middlebury were "good times" and "magnificent." ✳ **Judy Mitchell Ward**'s current passion is the library that she helped to build in New Vernon, N.J. Her library organization of volunteers raised five-and-a-half million dollars, built and furnished the town's 8,000-square-foot library, and now runs the library. She raised three wonderful daughters and has eight grandchildren. Having lived, as she would call a "privileged life," she has a strong sense of wanting to give back to the world. From Middlebury she gained a sense of being an intellectual. We were educated well with good professors and good opportunities. Reflecting on perceived restrictions of women in the '50s, Judy commented that she wanted the challenge of physics so enrolled in Prof. Whistler's class, one of only two women. Somewhat to her surprise and the surprise of the males in the class, she received one of the highest grades. Judy loves life, feels blessed with her solid daughters and now wants to be sure that "what I do counts." ✳ **Beverly Krupinsky Paul** reflected that studying for four years at Middlebury was a luxury. She said her parents picked Middlebury for her to attend and she did what her parents told her (which might be true of many women in the '50s). After Middlebury she returned to New York and worked a number of jobs involving computers but did not have one specific career. Currently, because of an illness, she spends most of her time in her apartment in the Bronx. ✳ Clark and **Margaret Burkman Winslow** are living the life that many retired people could envy. Six years ago they built a house on a small lake 25 miles west of Albany, N.Y. In the summer they spend their days fishing, swimming, and enjoying their grandchildren. Although they still continue to travel every year, they do enjoy relaxing on their lake during all seasons. Part of Margaret's travels in the past has included leading groups on tours to different places, such as Russia and Barbados. In thinking about Middlebury, Margaret said she made many good friends and connections while there. ✳ **Joan Patterson Woodsum** has lived in Maine for most of her years since graduating from Middlebury. She did go to Yale Law School for a year when there were only about seven women in her class. She says, "Nothing much has changed in our lives—same house, same husband, same grandchildren." She is enjoying "puttering around and not doing much." She grew up in San Francisco and was persuaded by her father to see another part of the country for college, so she ended up at Middlebury. Having gone there influenced the rest of her life in that she never left New England. ✳ **George Limbach** visited **John Field** in the spring and reported that John is commodore of the Hyannis Yacht Club. John is not sailing so much any more, but is spending a lot of time painting. ✳ Painting is also a major hobby of **Bill Admirand**, who recently had his first gallery show in Reno, Nev., which was a sellout. Bill thinks the sells were mostly to his former patients. Bill is now retired and has time to paint. ✳ Correspondent **John Baker** reports: I called **Ron Crawford** in Vancouver, BC, where he lives "free of gadgety encumbrances." He was actually a British subject at Middlebury and moved to Canada after graduation, where he worked for the Bank of Montreal in Toronto. In the 1980s he moved to Calgary and later represented the Bank of Tokyo in western Canada. He retired to British Columbia with the "joy of his life," Joy Nickel, whom he married in 1990. ✳ **Dick Wolmar** writes, "I'm farming full time, growing hay, vegetables, and livestock on a family-farm scale. I'm gradually shifting to a vegetable-protein regimen after reading *China Study*. I'm a strong believer in precious metal as currency. Food is our focus for our region, and establishing a local, durable, organic food system. I attended the Slow Living Conference in Brattleboro, Vt., which was attended by over 225 very stimulating people, primarily focused on Vermont but applicable anywhere. Bill McKibben was the closing speaker. The focus of the conference was the food revolution, alternative energy, and socially responsible investing. Comment: Those of us who are in good health now, and wish to remain so, know your local farmers and support them. I welcome discussion of this paradigm shift with anyone with interest." ✳ After an 11-year stint with Habitat for Humanity, **Stu Bacon** has been concentrating on his longtime digression—photography. His work is seen in fine art photography shows. ✳ **Jonathan Brand** wrote that the Bennington Museum had a show of some of the photographs from the 174 he gave them last year titled "A Vermont October Weekend in Black and White." They timed the opening to his 60th Bennington High School reunion in July. He says, "As some of you may remember, wife Monika and I and our two daughters, plus Monika's niece Linda from Sweden, hitched a ride from New York to Bennington and back that October weekend with Clark McCutcheon '56, who was going to the Middlebury Homecoming Game." ✳ In May, **John Denny** had a small contingent of '55ers at our Taft School's 60th reunion—**Spike Heminway**, **Dick Wollmar**, and yours truly. It was quite an event and the Taft alumni office did a great job entertaining and feeding us. ✳ Abbie and **Jack Fassnacht** enjoy their summer place in Brooksville, Maine. They hike in the nearby Holbrook Island Sanctuary, kayak, read, and in general laze about until they leave in early October. The rest of the year they're in their home in Lake Forest, Ill. Jack and Abbie celebrated their

50th wedding anniversary last December! ✳ Connie and **Alden Lank** still live in Hingham, Mass. They plan a cruise every year and this year's is on Oceania's *Insignia,* beginning in Dover, England, and ending in Stockholm 15 days later. They'll spend five days before the trip with their British family in South Ascot and five days at the end with old Swedish friends. "Hope to get lots of nature photography in the northern climes with late sun." ✳ **John MacGowan** is married to Sally (Beyer) '56. He retired from his law practice in Allentown, Pa., but works on their horse farm, as Sally puts it, "tirelessly driving his beloved tractor, dragging arenas, moving manure, moving snow, and doing other tasks that he never learned in law school." Their three children all went to Middlebury. One lives in Waterbury, Vt., so they visit Middlebury often. Their oldest lives near Allentown and the third lives in Nyack, N.Y., a convenient stop on the way to Vermont. They were off to the Dalmatian Coast this fall. ✳ **Win Tremaine** writes, "Elizabeth and I are still in Silver Spring, Md., where I'm hoping I live long enough to be able to score my age on our 18-hole golf course. A more realistic target may be to live long enough to be able to ski free of charge at Alta like my brother, who is over 80, did this year. We still like to travel and managed to do the Scandinavian countries last year. Elizabeth took time off from her volunteer work to visit her relatives in Brazil this year. We also spend some weeks every winter in Florida. When not gallivanting from pillar to post we have been known to spend quiet time huddled over our Kindles, which have managed to increase our devotion to reading over the past few months." ✳ It's great hearing from you—keep in touch. We can't do this without you!

—Class Correspondents: *John M. Baker (jmbaker@bestweb.net), 76 Spooner Hill Rd., South Kent, CT 06785; Sally Dickerman Brew (sdbrew1@mindspring.com), 629 Benvenue Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024.*

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Wow! What a great turnout we had for our 55th reunion back in June! We came from all over the map—California, Canada, Denmark, Hawaii, Illinois, Texas, Virginia, Connecticut, Florida, Vermont, North Carolina, and more—all-in-all 20 states and two foreign countries. Now how is that for commitment? Sixty-four of us returned, most with a spouse or friend, totaling 98 people—likely a record for a post-50th reunion. And on top of that, thanks to the efforts of **Pete Orvis**, **Mimi Schwarz Reed**, and all the class agents, the Class of '56 took the Gold Key Award for highest participation of giving for a post-50th reunion class at 76 percent. (And as we met our June 30 deadline we were near 86 percent—the class goal.) Nice going, classmates. Despite a soggy spring in Vermont, the weather was cool and mostly sunny. The accommodations in Gifford were much better than Forest (50th). Dinner in the country at Barbara and **Dick Catlin**'s farm under tents, featuring the vocal pipes of **Ron Potier**, **Mint Dole**, **John Hammond**, and **Jack Harrington**, four of the original Dissipated Eight, and Jack's Pot Luck bluegrass band, was a delightful way to start off the weekend. **Walt Mears** addressed all who filled McCullough the next morning as part of his receiving the Alumni Achievement Award as a top journalist for the Associated Press for over 40 years. And true to form his views of politics past and present were blunt yet entertaining. Before we marched to Mead Chapel and Convocation, we met in the remodeled Abernathy Room in Starr Library to honor our 79 classmates who have passed on. **Ron Lawson** led the service in a dignified and touching way. After dining under tents behind the Center for the Arts Saturday evening, we assembled in Gifford Lounge to join again in song together led by **Ned MacDowell** to tunes we remember so well from the '40s, '50s, and '60s. This was a very successful reunion due largely to the great support we received from Sue Levine and her staff from the Alumni Office and from the student helpers. Folks enjoyed Ned's songbook and the journal of many classmates' updates, '56ers@MiddLife. **Judy Phinney Stearns** and **Dick Powell** had so much fun as reunion hosts and class correspondents for the past five years that they "re-elected" themselves for another five years. ✳ To see a photo of some classmates at reunion, check page 77. ✳ Following the reunion, several messages were received from classmates. **Bev Watkins Schopp** writes, "Thanks for the reunion summary—it was indeed a wonderful weekend, bringing back many memories of our days at the 'Bury. We were especially thrilled to see Erik and **Jeannie Hauselmann Bolvinkel** as well as so many other classmates." She and husband **Rollie Schopp** were going to Ireland and Scotland in late August and until then were working on the golf game. ✳ **Stan Hayward** writes, "What a wonderful reunion! As good as the 50th was, the 55th was even better! Congratulations! About the only problem with a reunion weekend is that there never seems to be enough time to talk with everyone. I really do enjoy reunions, not only so that we can connect with those we know well but also with others who are less familiar. My wife, Peg, has immensely enjoyed coming to these Middlebury gatherings. We ARE a friendly and welcoming group and that is most evident to all." ✳ **Gwynne Kimbell Shultz** writes, "I was so sorry to miss reunion. I had a wonderful conflict, though. I took my three older grandsons (ages 12 and 13) on a cruise to Bermuda. I can't say I thought a whole lot of the ship itself (you might call it Las Vegas at sea), but I loved being in the midst of the adolescent energy and enthusiasm of the three boys. Otherwise, life is good. I love each season here in Wisconsin. Summer is busiest with family members coming to enjoy the lake and the woods and, of course, one another. Then it quiets down for our spectacular fall season. Who could ask for anything more?" ✳ **Maureen Craig Smart** is a standout of the 70-something crowd and writes, "I was sorry to miss the reunion weekend but for the time being I find myself caught up in running a quilt shop, The Quiltery, near where we live in Fairfield, Va. I didn't have a clue on how to run a quilt shop—initially my idea was to use the cute little space I rented to give lessons on my long-arm machine—but one learns quickly! I hired some part-time help and went full time, six days a week, last June and have been growing steadily. In January I was able to rent this wonderful arts-and-crafts-style house that really lends itself to a quilt shop (and actually has room for me to store my fabric onsite which previously had been in my car, my garage, my sewing room, you name it!). I don't have an accountant yet because I know they would probably not appreciate my methods, but so far have not run afoul of the law. In short, I'm working very hard, but having a ball! My next challenge is to create a website/blog for more visibility. I'd love to see anyone who is traveling through Virginia on Interstate 81—we're just off exit 200. It has been great seeing Betsy and **Si Ayer** on several occasions as they go to Blacksburg to watch their granddaughter play lacrosse." ✳ **Liz Alexander Brierley** contributed this to '56ers@MiddLife, which did not get included with the others: "Last summer we celebrated 50 years' ownership of the house where we are living now. In June 1960, Jim and I bought a very rundown, 100-year-old farmhouse on an unpaved road, 60 miles from Montreal. Gradually we fixed it up for use on weekends and holidays. We moved from the city in 1999 to live here full time. Our celebration of 50 years was attended by our four children and four grandchildren, plus others. It was a lovely late August day with the children playing outside and adults chatting on the porch. The weather was perfect—in fact the day was perfect. Home and family, at this stage of our lives, is the basis of what we all care about most." ✳ **Correspondents' plea**: We solicit news for our class column from you by an e-mail request once a year. If you are not receiving those e-mails, that means we do not have your e-mail address. Please send it to us. For those who do not have e-mail or don't want to share their address, you may send us news at any time for inclusion in the magazine at our addresses below. In appreciation for all your help with this column and with best wishes to all our classmates in the coming months, Dick and Judy.

—Class Correspondents: *Dick Powell (repowell55@comcast.net), 13518 Ryton Ridge Ln., Gainesville, VA 20155; Judy Phinney Stearns (judyastearns@att.net), 53 Carriage Dr., Glastonbury, CT 06033.*

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REUNION CLASS

From **Gaydell Maier Collier** comes word of her new book, *Just Beyond Harmony*. It's a memoir of four years in the life of her family—husband Roy, four kids, a German shepherd, and numerous quirky cats—in a log cabin (without amenities) by the Laramie River, southwest of Laramie, Wyo. ✳ Bob and **Lee Hall Albern** celebrated their 50th anniversary with their family—daughters Audrey and Ann '86, their spouses, and five grandchildren—at Grand Canyon. Hiking, biking, admiring sunsets and even sunrises at the South Rim were highlights. Part of the group continued to the North Rim for a gorgeous last hurrah. Bob and Lee traveled from Rensselaer, N.Y., to Flagstaff, Ariz., and back by Amtrak. ✳ **Sue Babbidge** checks in from Islesboro, Maine, where two children, their spouses, three grands, and two dogs, celebrated the Fourth of July. Sue leaves the island three times a year to care for her Fire Island property. On island she keeps busy with Zumba classes, sewing, and singing. John Travolta and Kirstie Alley share her special island, along with 600-plus other permanent residents. ✳ From **Diane Draper Walker** we hear of a trip to Holland with her brother, Larry Draper '52. ✳ During Reunion Weekend **Sabra Harwood Field** enlightened an alumni audience with a lecture describing the inspiration and structure of her new work "Cosmic Geometry," installed as a mural on the back wall of Wright Theatre. In the audience were classmates **Adrienne Littlewood DeLaney**, **Hugh Marlow**, **Ellie Maier MacDowell**, **Peggy Houck Smith**, **Pat Judah Palmer**, **Kathy Platt Potier**, **Heather Hamilton Robinson**, and **Carol Van Duyn Terhune**. ✳ The College has received word of the recent deaths of several classmates—**A. James Allott** on May 11, **Robert Dorn** on April 5, **Alex Carley** on June 13, and **Townsend Hoen** on May 21. **Wyman Rolph** remembers Townie, his "friend of 58 years, with the ups and downs we shared and the hilarious pleasures that ensued over the friendship." Wyman, along with **Doc Painter** and **Pete Cooper**, attended the memorial service in Maryland, where they spent two evenings together, "sharing giggles and sadness." Our sympathy goes out to **Maxine Vought Hoen** and all the families experiencing loss. ✳ The *New Hampshire Bar News* reported that **Glen Graper** was

one of 19 lawyers honored in June at a reception and dinner at the Omni Mount Washington Hotel for 50 years in the legal profession. He's still practicing law at his own firm in Portsmouth, N.H.
—Class Correspondents: *Gail Bliss Allen (gballen@comcast.net), Chateau 31, 2701 Capitol Ave., Sacramento, CA 95816; Kathy Platt Potier (rkpotier@verizon.net), 1945 Park Plaza, Lancaster, PA 17601.*

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Correspondent **Ann Ormsbee Frobose** reports: I'm very sorry to report that **Joseph Mohbat** passed away on August 10. He was a longtime friend of mine and I'll miss him. More will be written about him in the winter issue and an obituary will appear in a future issue. ✳ We remember **Patty Phillips Hutchison** who passed away on April 1. **Sue Daniell Phillips** remembers Patty as an eager and enthusiastic volunteer throughout her life; married to the late Gerry Rodie and then Bill Hutchison, with two children, Scott and Elizabeth. Among many other activities, she worked as office manager for Tom Kean's gubernatorial campaign in New Jersey. **Spenny Cosby Moody**, who roomed with Patty sophomore year, remembers Patty's excitement and joy when she became engaged over spring break. Since Spenny was also engaged, their dorm room was called the "Diamond Den." Freshman year Patty roomed with **Mimi Packard Brown**, who recalled that Patty stood out as an expert typist and had her own typewriter, which was helpful when notes were due for Contemporary Civilization class. **Betsy Chalmers** was a Tri Delt with Patty, where Patty began her career in volunteering for community service. She always jumped in wherever she was needed. Patty was always upbeat, positive, lots of fun, and a good friend. She made a difference. **Linda Mayer Horkitz** remembers that Patty had a great sense of humor. I did not know Patty but I remember the infectious warmth of her smile. I called **Mary Daniels Jones** who said the same thing; this must be true for many of us who didn't know her well. ✳ Our sympathy goes out to **Dottie Bigelow Neuberger** who lost husband Fred '50 on July 30. His obituary appears in this issue. ✳ I'm pleased to report that **Sonny Wilder** has agreed to be my co-correspondent. We'll be getting in touch with classmates but you can always send news to the addresses below.
—Class Correspondent: *Ann Ormsbee Frobose (aspof@sbcglobal.net), 2370 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566; Sonny Wilder (wilder531@gmail.com), 211 Hillcrest Rd., Needham, MA 02492.*

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Dave Riccio was honored by Kent State Univ. this past May as he wrapped up his 46th year with no intent to retire. Dave has had a long and distinguished research career at Kent State. He has published more than 170 journal articles, with 40 years of uninterrupted research funding from NIH and the National Science Foundation, and has received Kent State's Distinguished Scholar Award. He's also the recipient of the university's Distinguished Teaching Award and has mentored 42 PhD graduates. ✳ Moose Factory, Ontario, near James Bay, was the site of **Anne Goebel Barkman**'s February visit to the home of one of her sons. "It wasn't as cold and there wasn't as much snow as I'd expected, although in January the temperature can reach minus 35 degrees Fahrenheit. Next year I'll try for January, just to see what it's like. Moose Factory is so named because it was where the factor (Hudson Bay Co. officer in charge of the fur trade for the area) was located back in the day. It's an island on the Moose River, about 10 miles south of James Bay, the lower lobe of Hudson Bay. It's now a Reserve for the Moose Cree First Nation, where my middle son practices at the Weeneebayko General Hospital. You get there by train or plane followed by a short trip by water taxi, helicopter, or ice road, depending on the season. About two weeks before I arrived a car went through the ice, but did not sink to the bottom, although the occupants and their photographic equipment got soaked." ✳ **Bill Hussey** and Anita spent a weekend in Paris followed by a week in Normandy, celebrating the fact that they are still "compos mentis." They recommend Bayeux as a base for exploring the many sights in Normandy, including D-Day beaches. ✳ Marilyn and **John Rich** took a rail trip across Canada, indicating that the Vancouver-to-Calgary was the best, by far. ✳ **Paul Schosberg** and wife Jane mark 40 years of breeding thoroughbreds. We are waiting to see them in the winner's circle at Churchill Downs, Pimlico, or Belmont shortly. ✳ **Bob Luce** and **Anne Martin Hartmann** send compliments and thanks to our class for our very good showing in this year's annual fund. "The college really cares about our participation rate, and over 63 percent of us contributed this past fiscal year." The Hartmanns and Fred and **Granthia Lavery Preston** returned recently from Norway: a study-travel trip sponsored by the local adult education program. "We traveled up the coast of Norway from Bergen all the way to the Russian border and back to Bergen on the Norwegian mail boat called the *Hurtigruten*—not so much a mail boat any longer, though it does carry mail and cargo in addition to passengers." ✳ Earla and **Don Woodworth** celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in May and her 80th birthday in June. Don is proud to be the first of three generations to attend Middlebury. The three children are Sue '78, Greg '81, and Gordon '84 and two grandchildren, Sara '12 and Hilary '14. ✳ **Earle** and **Betty Layer Hoyt** celebrated 52 years of marriage, added to four years dating in College. Earle reports, "Despite my best efforts, the list of things I do not understand gets longer and the list of things I understand stays about the same. Economics and politics defy the logic of a physical scientist!" Betty writes, "We have just returned from an annual trip to Yellowstone—lots of bears, mountain goats, badgers, bison, and pronghorn. I'm going back to Silver Salmon Creek Lodge in Lake Clark National Park, Alaska, for more bear photography. Earle and Chip will stay here to hold the fort, and then he is off to Boulder, Utah, for landscape photography." ✳ **Dick Krasker** was recently honored by the town of Fryeburg, Maine, as a resident who believes strongly in giving back to his community. Dick ran Indian and Forest Acres Camps, founded by his family in 1920, from the early '60s until his retirement in 1999. He was a longtime president of the Maine Camp Directors' Assoc., and a member of Fryeburg Business Assoc.; he was also active on the Aquifer Resource Committee, chairman of the Parks Committee, and member of the Pequawket Kids' Assoc. ✳ **Jerry Van Wagenen** reports that 2010 was not a good health year, though "a great experience if one looks forward to death." He is fine now and finds he is not retired but retreaded. "I'm currently preaching in a little church and am still a rebellious soul who is not happy with the denominational executives who have turned religion into a business." Wife Marilyn is a gifted artist who has reached recognition to the point that all her paintings are commissioned. ✳ We offer condolences to **Barbara Hart Decker**, whose husband, Walter, died in hospice at home in La Crosse, Wis., on June 3. **Ailene Kane Rogers**, a longtime friend of Barbara and Walt, learned of his death on that day and immediately informed us. Walt was a well-known toxicologist who, among his other accomplishments, chaired an NIH committee on toxicology. ✳ **Don Collier** writes, "Pat (McCoy) '58 and I are enjoying an active retirement, horseback riding, kayaking, biking, and playing tennis and bridge. I tutor high school and college kids in math, physics, Spanish, and German. We have lots of room and are less than a mile off I-75 in Gainesville, Fla. We'd love to have any old friends drop in for a visit." ✳ We are saddened to report the death of **Virginia Lyons Aliberti** on January 27, after a brief illness. Ginny's career and volunteer positions included lab chemist, financial counselor, and volunteer for a number of organizations including the American Cancer Society. Details appear in the obituary section of this issue.
—Class Correspondents: *Lucy Paine Kezar (lucypainekezar@myfairpoint.net), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848; Andy Montgomery (joyandym@aol.com), 8910 Hilloway Rd., Eden Prairie, MN 55347.*

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Trying to make up for his last-minute withdrawal from our 50th, **Dick Atkinson** embraced a Class of '61 invitation to attend their pre-50th gathering in Woodstock. Not to be forgotten in this year of the Class of '61 was the memorable January hockey team 50th anniversary of the great team of 1960–61. Being there was a great time for the hundreds in attendance from the classes of '58 to '63. Also, as they have done every five years since '66, **Bob Hall**, **Bill French**, and Dick went down to Loomis again to attend their Class of '56 reunion. ✳ **Carolyn Ladd DeVilbiss** reports their lives revolve around home renovations and family visits. Last September they visited son Scott's family in Brookings, S.D., but had to postpone a March trip to visit son Brett's family in Tokyo. They were hoping to travel to Japan this autumn. At home, Carolyn and Dave have survived a complete kitchen redo and floor refinishing—they're still emptying boxes and reorganizing their storage. The results are great, but this is not something they would like to do again for a long time. Carolyn volunteers with the Virginia State Human Rights Committee for Behavioral Health and the local Medical Reserve Corps and David with Carpenters Shelter and ALIVE. For fun, they are active with their ski club and theater-ushering projects, and David with his model boat building. ✳ **Bob Cain**, **Dan Durland**, and **John Rogers** visited **Lars Carlson** in Florida for their seventh Chi Psi golf outing. Apparently Dan's learning curve has been such that he has left this league in his dust. For their annual vacation from retirement, Mary and Lars traveled by sea to New Zealand, Australia, and Indonesia, visiting Melbourne where Lars had served as president of an Asian company. ✳ **Caroline Vinciguerra Cassels** sent a note from her new iPad. She plays bridge and golf and gardens in her backyard retreat. She plans a Rhône River cruise in France next year with 13 other wine buddies. They call themselves the Rhône Rangers. Caroline adds, "See if there is an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute nearby. You can learn about things you never had time for before and make lots of like-minded friends. Google it. There are over 100 in the country." ✳ **Jack Lee** continues to work intermittently at his retirement career of providing training and consultancy to elements of the U.S. military special operations community. Carol and Jack enjoy proximity to their two grandkids. They plan a January Africa trip that will take them to, among other destinations, the Olduvai Gorge and

the Serengeti Plain, ending in Zanzibar. All of this is part of Jack's major program of trying to slow down the effects of the passage of time. ✳ **Lee Farnham**, birder and explorer, wrote of camping in the Coronado National Forest on the trail of Cochise in the Chiricahua Mountains in Arizona where the bird-watching is "beyond good. Look for the red-faced warbler up in the Coronados and elegant trogons in the Chiracahuas, the only place they can be found in the U.S." ✳ **Ralph Bergman** lives in Norwich, Conn., with wife Barbara. Ralph graduated from BU Law School and recently retired from the practice of law. ✳ **Jane Van Roekens Sinclair** was back in Vermont this summer for her husband's high school reunion in Newport and a visit with an uncle in South Burlington. They celebrated the 4th of July back in Maine, with a pancake breakfast, parade, a band concert later, and of course, the fireworks. In June they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Jane keeps busy volunteering for Alzheimer's day care respite and with free meals for the hungry at the Methodist church every Thursday night. ✳ We are sorry to have to report the deaths of several classmates. **Patricia "Kay" Johnson Gallman** died on April 11. Her good friend and senior year roommate, **Janie Cain Bell**, sent us the sad news. At Midd Kay was a member of Alpha Xi Delta and an Am lit major who worked on the *Campus* and Kaleid and was a four-year member of Women's Forum. ✳ **Bob Meyers** passed away on February 16. When he came to Midd Bob was a married veteran, who commuted from Stowe where he ran a ski shop. He was a history major. If memory serves your class correspondent right, he was also a figure skater who performed in Carnival ice shows. ✳ **Joseph Arseguel** died on March 28. With his parents he emigrated from France to Stowe in 1953. He was at Midd for only a year or so. **Jim Coward**, his freshman roommate, wrote that Joe was a good roommate who was patient when, on rare occasions, Jim used fractured French in conversation. ✳ Thanks to everyone who sent updates, especially those who answered Jean's plaintive cry for help. Vcevy and Jean know you read the class column first, so why not add to it?

—Class Correspondents: *Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandave@mindspring.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; Vcevy Strekalovsky (vs@shrarchitects.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.*

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Our glorious 50th reunion weekend of friendships old and new has spurred renewed interest in keeping up with classmates. Herewith are the latest contributions. This report, drawn up by correspondents **Janet Reed** and **Brad Mintener**, was sent to classmates but is reproduced here for others to enjoy. Since it's a comprehensive report, half will be shared now and half in the winter. ✳ **Judy McCann Van Winkle** says it took her awhile to come down from her euphoria bubble from reunion. Adding to the fun was staying in a LaForce reunion suite with **Jane Alexander Gott**, **Sue Fisher Seeger**, and **Janet Reed**. ✳ **David Crowley** says, "I loved the 50th, especially singing in the alumni choir, along with **Bob Fredrickson** and my wife Barbara. The students who aided us at reunion were loads of fun, but I was surprised that none of them understood what 'flunking out' meant. That's what I did at the end of my first semester sophomore year in 1958. With luck, supporting parents, and Boston University, I returned to graduate in time." By the way, maestro Emory Fanning, still reunion choir director and organ master after 30-plus years, was his usual dynamic, dramatic, quiet self in waving body and keyboard touch! ✳ **Joyce Morrell** says it was nice to see old friends again at the reunion and to see the campus and all the changes, and to look around the area on a beautiful day. She and her partner were recently honored by the EPA with a Lifetime Achievement Award at Faneuil Hall in Boston. The award was given to them because of a successful citizens' water quality monitoring program and for educating young people in environmental aspects of water management. Last summer Joyce and Jan worked on getting the seawalls rebuilt at Head Harbour Light station on Campobello Island, New Brunswick, where they live. They gave tower tours, and brought a stove, refrigerator, and furniture over to the lighthouse in their boat to get ready for rental sometime soon. Joyce asks, "Don't some of you want to rent a keeper's house out on a tidal island for a week? It is unbelievably beautiful out there, and the whales show up and stay until late September." Maybe next year, Joyce. Joyce and Jan run an inn, Owen House, on Campobello as well. They are also involved in a group that is reclaiming the local wharf, which is in a process of government divestiture. Their plan is to get this wharf rebuilt and obtain the deed. They also had a lighthouse float in the July 1 parade for which Joyce made a whale. If that's not enough, Joyce also participated in a plein air paint out and show in Eastport. ✳ **Dick Harris** and his business partner, Peter Framboni, also won a Lifetime Achievement Award from the EPA. Dick is director of Harbor Watch/River Watch, which monitors the health of the Norwalk River in Connecticut. Their organization monitors the oxygen levels as well as fish kills and number of fish species in the river. They teach the value of environmental stewardship to high school students, who often carry their enthusiasm to college studies and later careers. Dick and Peter also monitor the water at Five Mile River Harbor and part of Norwalk Harbor. Dick truly enjoyed reunion and said that his being on the "Staying Healthy" panel "got me talking to many classmates I never really knew at college." ✳ Accolades to **Howard "Howie" Mettee**, who, having taught for 42 years at Youngstown State University in Ohio, has been awarded an honorary degree from the Forest Technical University in St. Petersburg, Russia. Recently Howie was given a two-year, $90,000 grant from the US-CRDF Russian Federation Research Bureau to characterize biodiesel fuels from wood, a major undertaking today. Howie reports that his honor was more than a hood and a sheepskin as he celebrated "with books and flowers and a small reception, which flowed with familiar beverages, jokes, and a lot of friends." ✳ The reunion gave **Gerry Zelermyer** a real boost and his wife Heske enjoyed herself to the fullest. Heske is responsible for having taken a zillion reunion pictures that are available to be seen at http://bit.ly/qVKgB5. ✳ **Carolyn Bennett Jackson** spent last August in Australia and Papua New Guinea on a birding trip. She was looking forward to experiencing the different cultures and seeing lots of exotic birds, especially the cassowary in Australia and the birds of paradise in PNG. Carolyn wants everyone to know that she purchased her carbon offset for the trip, so she didn't feel quite so "ungreen." ✳ **David Tucker** recommends the book *One Nation Under Contract: The Outsourcing of American Power and the Future of Foreign Policy* by Allison Stanger, the Russell J. Leng '60 Professor of International Politics and Economics and chair of the political science dept. at Middlebury. He says, "Good read. You should also look at the YouTube video of Allison that the Carnegie Council featured on laissez-faire outsourcing. (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jen6J1nsDPg) Critical thinking is still very much alive and well at Middlebury." ✳ "What a great 50th!" is **Gerry "Colonel" Carrick**'s message. He sends kudos to all the committee that organized it, especially **Harvey Gray**, **Judy Starbuck Hannemann**, **Brad Mintener**, **Carolyn Bennett Jackson**, and **Jean Rau Dawes**. Gerry says it was great to have so many come back. His one regret was those classmates who couldn't be there for health reasons. We all agree they were missed but certainly not forgotten. Gerry signs off with "see you in five years [when we] will have another auction." ✳ The auction referred to by Gerry was held at our class dinner on Friday night at Bread Loaf, where a sumptuous buffet was served. **Roberta Thompson Schroder** donated a painting by Arthur Healy, which was auctioned for the benefit of the Class of 1961 reunion gift. David Gannett '62 purchased the painting in memory of his late wife, **Barbara Everard Gannett**. ✳ **Sally Tingle Southard** says she and husband Jim '59 thought reunion was truly grand. Sally worked hard on rounding up classmates for reunion and on *The Roads Taken* memory book we all received. She and Jim just celebrated their 50 years of wedlock with many relatives descending on Sunapee, N.H., where she is active in many community activities. After two 50ths, Sally is "ready to kick back" for a while. ✳ **Lois Ryman Lewis** and **Linda Ryman Frinsko** had a fun reunion together. Lois writes, "It was great to see everyone and enjoy the Middlebury campus—as beautiful as I remembered. I hope to get to Washington, D.C., in September (as does **Janet Reed**) to see Self-Reliance, Middlebury's solar-powered house entered into the Solar Decathlon." Middlebury was the first completely liberal arts college team to make it to the finals of this biennial international contest sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. ✳ The weekend was a smash hit! More details about the events will be in the winter issue.

—Class Correspondents: *Brad Mintener (bmintene@twcny.rr.com), PO Box 423, Canton, NY 13617; Janet Reed (jsreed2800@me.com), 2800 N. Lake Shore Dr., Apt. 2305, Chicago, IL 60657.*

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REUNION CLASS

Michael Kulick writes, "My wife, Alexandra, and I are planning to attend the Class of '62 reunion in June. We already have reservations, along with my fellow Zete, **Alan Chaitin**, and his wife, Ann. I am fully retired from my law practice as of the end of September. My wife is still working full time as a neuro-oncologist at Hartford (Conn.) Hospital. Son David is regional sales manager for Kaplan Early Systems in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. My daughter just earned her PhD in sociology from Brandeis Univ. and is teaching at UMass Dartmouth this fall." Michael and his wife were planning a trip to Israel in October and plan to take more trips to exotic places in the near future. He adds, "I urge all members of Zeta Psi to attend our 50th. We look forward to meeting with old friends and new friends Reunion Weekend." ✳ **Cindy Cooper Bracken** wrote about a week she spent in Utah on a Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) trip with granddaughter June (10). "We worked at an animal sanctuary in Kanab and then visited Zion and Bryce parks. I can't say that the scenery in that part of the world makes my heart sing, but it is interesting from a geological standpoint, for sure. We spent a night in Vegas on the way home and I didn't like it any better than I'd expected to. It was interesting to see it, however, and we walked around a bit despite the

100-degree temps. June was mainly interested in swimming in the Bellagio's pools since she'd never been in such fancy ones. We sampled one hot tub and three of the five pools." ✷ Congratulations to Harris and **Jan Timmerman Abbott** who were given the designation of honorary life members by the Green Mountain Club, one of its highest honors. Dedicated club members, they have worked to support the GMC's mission, helping to protect and maintain the Long Trail, which they have also hiked from end to end, the entire length of Vermont. They have also served the club as Burlington Section president and directors. Currently they are membership co-chairs for the Bread Loaf Section.

—Class Correspondents: *Judy Bosworth Roësset (jbozroesset@aol.com), 8809 Mariscal Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759; Liza Dunphy Fischer (bfisch@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808.*

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Summer has come and gone. Correspondents **Jan Brevoort Allen-Spencer** and **Chris White** hope all have had a grand time. Classmates have been busy gearing up for 50th reunion preparations. To date 60 percent of the class has joined in our Middlebury College fund-raising campaign—a good sign early on. We look forward to garnering volunteers to assist in the preparations. So far we have the following folks stepping forward: reunion chairs—**Chuck Burdick**, **Betty Ann Cooper Kane**, **Meg Holmes Robbins**, and **Sabin Streeter**; yearbook chairs—**Susan Washburn Buckley** and **Jane Bachelder Johnson**. We'll report more details from the Alumni Leadership Conference in the winter issue, and we encourage all to build momentum via spontaneous mini-reunion gatherings. Please let Jan and Chris know what takes place at these and who the participants are. Early involvement guarantees a fun time in 2013. ✷ In nonreunion news: **Chris White** in early June was able to review some of Brew Baldwin's physical geology course at Yosemite National Park and to delight in the majestic quiet of the Muir redwoods. In late June he and wife Susan '68 traveled to Bozeman, Mont., where further geologic review took place at Yellowstone and at the mines in Butte. ✷ **Dave Akin** of Harwich, Mass., is in the throes of having a 30-foot sailboat built at Union River Boat Co. in Bucksport, Maine. While checking on progress, he has stopped by for beers and snacks on Chris and Susan's deck, overlooking the Narramissic River. We look forward during reunion to hearing Dave speak about the process and also report on his voyages. ✷ In May the Center for Research on Vermont honored **Jane Choate Beck** with a Lifetime Achievement Award. As founder and executive director emeritus of the Vermont Folklife Center, she received the award for her enduring contributions to research vital to the culture of the state and citizens of Vermont. ✷ **William Sihler** writes, "I retired from JPMorgan Chase Bank in January 2008. Retired is not the best word to use as I continue to do substitute teaching duties five days a week. I enjoy being with my three granddaughters."

—Class Correspondents: *Janet Brevoort Allen-Spencer (janallenspencer@gmail.com), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746; Christopher J. White (cmbryc st@aol.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.*

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Correspondent **Marian Demas Baade** reports: After many years, **Joan Smith** felt moved to send something to class notes. She has created Healing Soup, a retreat house in midcoast Maine, after serving as an interim minister to several small churches in Vermont and Maine, including on the island of Vinalhaven. Her husband, **Chuck Johnson**, passed away in 1979. Daughter Heidi lives in Maryland with grandsons Zach (8) and Jake (5); son Eric and partner Andriana live in San Francisco, where Eric is co-owner of a new restaurant, Bar Agricole. She says, "The scale of living in town where I can walk to the ocean, cafe, library, art museum, and even island ferries is so satisfying! Trips to Eric's restaurant and to visit Heidi's adorable grandsons put life over the top of the gratitude scale. Perhaps Middlebury showed me that a small circle could result in a deep well." ✷ Correspondent **Pam Nottage Mueller** reports: When I contacted **Dori Ells Jurgenson**, she had just returned from a "road trip" to California to see oldest son Eric (who works at Lawrence Livermore Labs in theoretical nuclear physics—as she says, yipes!) and two grandchildren, Ethan (3) and Hannah (4 mos.). They took along daughter Ashlea, who was on break from vet tech school in Denver, Colo. Son Mark stayed in Chicago, having just finished an MA in vocal performance at Roosevelt Univ.—big student debts, no job! "Jim and I just keep plugging along, teaching at the Univ. of Northern Iowa, raising a big garden, etc.—a good life." ✷ **Norm** and **Susan Camden Kalat** were in Bethesda, Md., for Memorial Day and saw oldest grandson Jack in the fifth grade performance of *Oliver*. Susi says, "He was an awesome Mr. Bumble! Since he has moved on to middle school this year, last year was the end of him being in the same school (building) with Susie and Hunter until the twins reach high school. That's quite a change for them to get used to. In Arizona Nate (5.5) and Jonathan (2) have been 'helpers' during a major reworking of the foundation and floors in their family's fixer-upper house. I think by the time they help with all the renovations they'll be able to build a structure from scratch. We also got to Nate's end of the preschool year musical production. Great fun to see the grandkids grow." She was looking forward to the family visiting in August although at the time of writing, there were fires ravaging New Mexico, where they live, and they'd been breathing smoke from the Arizona blazes for weeks. She said the land of enchantment hadn't been living up to its reputation. ✷ **Julie Sage Day** writes, "I've never sent an update but I was inspired by your request! I've been a social worker, research psychologist (biopsychologist), PL/1 programmer, software trainer, business manager, development director, retiree, freelance grant writer, blogger, and Grammy! Perhaps the greatest of these is the last; certainly one of the most fun. How's that for a condensed vitae! I lost my husband over three years ago and am living with my son in New Jersey. I spend one day a week in Park Slope, Brooklyn, taking care of my daughter's son, Remi, who is, of course, adorable at nearly two and a half and there you have it!" ✷ Perhaps I (**Pam**) should add a bit about our last six months. We sold our house of 40 years after three years on the market, moved in six short weeks to a condo (don't ask how we managed to get all sorted and packed—but we are still looking for things), and then welcomed our first grandbaby, Eliza, born to Eric and Anne Mueller on May 23. Needless to say I have been making many trips to Boston to help the new parents out. Such fun! Luckily funding for educational consulting (I'm a literacy consultant working with struggling schools, and there are lots of them!) is drying up, so I've been able to focus on the move and the grandchild!" ✷ Correspondent **Bob Baskin** reports: Following graduation from Middlebury, **Gary Murphy** dedicated his professional life to education. He concluded his full-time career as principal of Bee Meadow Elementary School in Hanover, N.J., and is quite proud that his school was named one of only 13 National Blue Ribbon Schools in 1998–1999. Having retired four years ago, he fills in as an interim principal when a need arises in his area. Gary reports that he is equally proud of his two children, a daughter who is an attorney in Manchester, N.H., and a son who also practices law as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard. He and his wife enjoy frequent visits to Cape May where Gary gets in more than a few rounds of golf. While he hasn't been back to Midd often, he's going to seriously consider attending our 50th reunion. Good decision, Gary. ✷ I recently had a fascinating conversation with a very thoughtful and committed **Hans Neuhauser.** Hans has followed his strong interest in things environmental throughout his career and, I suspect, in the way he looks at life. He has been to Afghanistan with Chicago's Field Museum, worked on matters affecting the conservation of Georgia's coast at the Univ. of Georgia, and, as executive director of the Georgia Policy Institute, he has focused on land conservation issues for the past 15 years. That's what Hans does during the workday, but at other times he has written family cookbooks and studied such topics as the Georgia defenses during the Spanish American War. As one can see, he has a diversity of interests and constantly looks for ways to make a contribution. For example, he'd like to investigate how fellow alums have digressed from their college majors and any role their Middlebury education may have played that prompted, or at least contributed, to such a metamorphosis. Hans is also interested in learning more about some of our classmates who never graduated from the school, but with whom many of us had friendships. ✷ Taking a cue from Hans, I reached out and spoke with **Mark Edwards.** Mark left Middlebury in the middle of our junior year and enlisted in the Army. While stationed in Germany, Mark met and married his wife with whom he has a daughter. After a three-year stint in the service, Mark came home to Oklahoma where he graduated from the Univ. of Oklahoma, thanks to the GI Bill. He went on to earn a master's from the Univ. of California and stayed in the Reserves until he was 60. Mark worked for the California Environmental Protection Agency until he retired in 2002 as librarian of the Air Resources Board. He reports being far from bored by retirement, keeping busy with babysitting, studying genealogy, and gardening.

—Class Correspondents: *Marian Demas Baade (mcbaade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; Bob Baskin (robertbaskin@msn.com), 6925 Woodside Place, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; Pam Nottage Mueller (pammueller7@gmail.com), 601 Smithfield Rd., Contoocook, NH 03229.*

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On June 30 **Bill Alexander** retired to work on a book and to paint. "With most of my career spent in anthropology, some of the things I am most proud of include first working with Margaret Mead, then with wife Wendy (Wertz) '68, conducting research on a remote atoll in the Pacific, where we experienced life in a time warp, as it was before electricity, plumbing, cars, or electronics; testifying before the UN Trusteeship Council and the UN General Assembly's Decolonization Committee (where the U.S. delegation walked out to protest my testimony); serving as academic vice president of a liberal arts college; and finally, serving as a professor, helping some 'lost' students find their way." He and Wendy have two great sons, David, an MIT grad who just got his PhD from UCLA and is working in DNA

sequencing, and Danny, a Pratt grad, an industrial designer who is trying to do well by doing good. His current project is in improving sanitation among the urban poor in Ghana. Bill hopes that Wendy can retire soon as well. She worked first for UNICEF, and currently is in the national office of an organization which provides housing for the homeless. ✷ **Paul Witteman** writes, "The Stub (Mackey) Scholarship Fund is over $200K and climbing thanks to some very generous gifts. We've even awarded the first scholarship. Our daughter, Kate, started at Bowdoin in August. She turned down Midd and Ellie's alma mater, Mt. Holyoke, among others. Oh well, her choice and she's happy as a cod so who can complain."

—Class Correspondents: *R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753; Polly Moore Walters (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.*

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Reunion weekend was a real treat. The weather surprised the Vermonters among us by turning sunny and mild, making meals outside under tents and visits to such features as the Solar Decathlon house project and the student-run organic garden extra pleasant. People lingered outdoors way into the evenings to talk, the days being just too lovely to give up. Our class also had the honor of being awarded the Armand N. LaFlamme '37 Cup for the pre-50th class with the highest giving participation at 54 percent. ✷ At our class dinner Friday night, **Glenn Govertsen** shared news that is both sad and inspiring. Here are his words: "In celebration of this year's 45th reunion at Middlebury College, the **Roger Buchika** '66 Alpine Skiing Fund has been established by his wife, Jane Buchika, to honor Roger. This permanently endowed fund will support the alpine and Nordic ski teams at Middlebury. In addition, the Worth Mountain ski lift chair no. 45 has been designated the Roger Buchika '66 chair. The timing of this gift relates to Roger's health during the past decade. He has been suffering from an atypical, progressive, neurological disease. He has also been diagnosed with Balint's Syndrome, a rare neurological/visual disorder. As his health has deteriorated, Roger has continued to show great courage. The outcome was inevitable and now he is under full-time care directed lovingly by Jane. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Roger and his family. We'll always remember the excitement we shared as he brought the thrill of winning alpine ski races at Middlebury winter carnivals. Donations can be made to this fund in his name to Middlebury. I miss you, Roger B." ✷ We dislike lumping our difficult news together, but it tends to arrive in bunches. We learned that **Bill Michaels** died in February of this year. In reply to a card Francine sent because she remembered **Judy** (**Rowe**) and Bill as a couple at Middlebury, Judy said that she and Bill had enjoyed visiting Vermont now and then over their 43 years of marriage to hike in the mountains. Judy has struggled for the last 14 years with recurring ovarian cancer. She had just returned home from a surgery when Bill developed pneumonia very suddenly, followed by septic shock. Our sympathy is sent to her and her family. ✷ **Dave Thompson** wrote to say that he and **Hunter Stone**, who died in January, had kept in touch over the years. On occasional stays with the Thompsons, Hunter had gotten to know Dave's children and been fond of them. Dave wrote that he and his eldest daughter had visited Hunter in late December of 2010 and were "glad that we had the chance to say good-bye." ✷ Our blessings to **Steve Sanborn**, who is doing a wonderful job keeping his spirits up as he deals with his Parkinson's disease. He writes from Kittery, Maine, "I'm feeling fine and enjoying life as best I can." He says that his medicine is keeping it under control, and he sends his best wishes to everyone who was able to make it back to Middlebury for reunion! ✷ **Don Simon** wrote that for the last 19 years he and his wife have run the East Side Art Center, "an art school for people five years to however old an adult will or won't admit to." The Center is run out of Don's former ad agency building in Providence, R.I. The school has filled "an after-school need for kids who aren't getting enough—or any—art in their funding cut-back schooling (even 19 years ago that was the case)." And for adults it's a great environment to stretch creative skills. "It's very rewarding—it's what I always wanted to do after I had enough of my graphic design (the real thing, not what you buy in a software package), marketing, and copywriting career." Their daughter and her two children live in Fairfax, and they get to see them as often as possible. "Retirement?" Don remarks. "Hopefully not." ✷ **Judy Nothnagle Reynolds** wrote to say that she'd be thinking of us at our 45th! "And just where did those years go?" she asked, mentioning that she'd be putting our 50th high on her priority list. "Retirement is wonderfully busy, with one son, daughter-in-law, and two grands close by, and one son in Park City, Utah—a great destination!" The Reynolds have delighted in going "shore to shore" twice, as well as from the northern border to Key West, in a Corvette! And they've enjoyed traveling off the beaten path to visit national parks, bike, and hike. ✷ **Carol Swanson Wright** writes, "Husband John and I traveled to China in May for the third time (1987, 2007, 2011). Lots of bicycles in 1987; lots of cars in 2007. On our most recent trip to Xi'an, our guide told us that the congestion on city streets grows by 600 cars—per day!" ✷ From **Dianne Watson Carter** came this: "Two milestones this summer. First, I retired as a class correspondent, leaving my part of our column in the able hands of **Prue Frey Heikkinen**. (Thank you, Prue!) Second, Eddie and I are retiring to The Villages in Florida, shocking ourselves and everyone who knows us. We balked at even *visiting* this community of 75,000 old people on vacation, but in no time at all we were blissfully gulping the Kool-Aid. Now we're excited about tennis and pickle ball, softball for Ed (2,500 men participate in five leagues, ranging from nearly semi-pro to the 'wheelchair league'), plus an 8,000 square-foot woodworking shop for him to play in. We missed reunion because we were there buying a house and, of course, a golf cart. This move is bittersweet, since our adventure means leaving kids and grandkids, but it's time, plus it's the only way to keep Ed from getting up at 4:30 a.m. for work! Our new address is 2116 Hobbs Court, The Villages, FL 32162—come on down!" ✷ Welcome, Prue, to our Class of 1966 notes column—and many thanks to Dianne for her years of correspondent service to our class!

—Class Correspondents: *Prue Frey Heikkinen (pheikkinen@att.net), 1914 Wayne Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104; Francine Clark Page (page@pshift.com), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452.*

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REUNION CLASS

We're so pleased to know that classmates do read our column. A few let us know that we got the reunion number wrong in the summer issue (35th). But we're thinking that our 45th reunion is the new 35th! Certainly, with all the activities we're considering, you'll feel like you're 57, not 67. Important thing is to put June 8–10 on your calendar now and plan to come. ✷ **Marion Boultbee** and husband Bill Smith spent a fun Vermont break at **Tom** and **Susie Davis Patterson**'s camp on Lake Dunmore, riding bikes around the lake and into Brandon, eating out in Middlebury, and enjoying lazy days on the lake. A week later, Susie and Tom were guests aboard **Linda Morse** and husband Tim's sailboat on Lake Champlain. Given a beautiful but calm day, we lazed in the sun and caught up on each couple's activities over the last year. Susie and Tom recently returned from Tom's eight-month sabbatical from UVM trip around the world, with three-month teaching stints in Uppsala, Sweden, and Sydney, Australia, and lots of traveling, touristing, and hiking in between. Linda headed up a very successful multimillion-dollar fund-raising effort for the Chandler Arts Center in Randolph, Vt., and had good suggestions for our class service project in the making. ✷ **Sheldon Baker** sent the news that he and wife Brenda met up with Roberta and Bob Wishart '66, Diane and **John Liccardi**, and Lorinda and Rick Callahan '68 in May of this year for a rollicking feast and tour of Rome and Tuscany. They are the gelato and truffle kings and queens. Sheldon also wrote, "**Bill Richardson**'s death in March dealt a deep blow to me and all of his friends, some of them from the Dissipated Eight. It was a privilege for me to room with Bill part of our senior year, enjoying road trips, discussions about our futures, and wonderful tunes. I miss Bill's zest and wish we'd had more time together these past few years." ✷ **Ruth McKenzie Cannon** writes, "While recently vacationing in Sacramento, Calif., for the National Model Railroad Convention, Larry and I enjoyed spending time with Bob and **Kaaren Wishinski Hulbert**, who live in nearby Woodland. It's always great to catch up with good friends and classmates. We spent lots of time laughing about Midd memories! Thanks, Kaaren, for your hospitality and being a great tour guide!" ✷ **Paul Connolly** stopped by Patterson's camp on Lake Dunmore on a beautiful summer's day with two grandsons in tow for swimming off the dock. Paul and Tom compared Frozen Four hockey fan notes and plans, and Susan got to try out her reunion activities ideas on Paul (who liked them!). Paul's daughter-in-law was a student for the summer at Bread Loaf's School of English and the family was renting on Lake Dunmore. Paul was up to help a bit with babysitting and cabin cleaning. While retired, Paul is still in a local (Philadelphia) school teaching English as a Second Language to the immigrant parents of some of the schools' students.

—Class Correspondents: *Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; Alex Taylor (ataylor1145@gmail.com), 215 Wells Hill Rd., Lakeville, CT 06039.*

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Nancy Brooks Richardson writes that she and David '66 have just moved to Hingham, Mass. (48 Ridgewood Crossing, 02043), so they can be with the four children of daughter Megan '92 more often without the 100-mile commute Nancy was making two or three times a week from their previous digs since her retirement a year and half ago. They also see more of **Becky Fitts Rylander** now that she lives year-round in Sunapee, N.H., where they visited en route to David's recent Midd reunion. There they met up (as they have every '66 and '68 reunion since graduation) with Dick '66 and **Barbie Shean Lippert**. **Barbara Barrett Bloom** was also there connecting with a reuning relative. Barbie and Dick have just welcomed their second grandchild, son of

Alan '99 in Austin, Texas, where Barbie spends several weeks every summer enjoying grandparenting. Nancy and David have also connected with **Linda Burley**, **Jean Dithmar Myer**, **Barb Ellison Stokes**, and **Nordis Glasoe** when they all had coinciding trips to Florida (twice!). Nancy hopes to see more of Nordis a little closer to home now that hers is in the adjoining town. ✳ **Walter Becker** reports that in 2009 he and his wife relocated to The Villages, a huge golf-cart retirement community in central Florida. Walter also reports that he had noticed in a recent *Middlebury Magazine* a note from classmate **Michele MacKellar Sakurai** that said she had also retired to Central Florida, and that she and her husband, after a lifelong career with the UN, had then started a new period in their lives and built a horse farm near Gainesville. Walter contacted Michele, who invited him and his wife to a horse show near her farm, at which Michele showed her new foals and colts. Walter and his wife had a lovely day and he wants to let people know that Michele would love visitors to come by for a visit at Sakura Hill Farm, in Gainesville, especially horse lovers. ✳ The *Valley News* recently reported that **John Morton** had been chosen as one of four 2011 Hall of Fame inductees by the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum in Stowe. Along with his involvement with skiing and coaching, he has also earned his International Biathlon Union referee's license and continues to develop cross-country skiing and running courses through his business, Morton Trails.

—Class Correspondents: *Ben Gregg (gregg.bentley@epamail.epa.gov), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180; Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau (hstoebs@aol.com), 6 Timber Fare, Spring House, PA 19477.*

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Alma Robinson is celebrating her 30th year as executive director of California Lawyers for the Arts, which provides legal counseling, alternative dispute resolution, educational programs, and advocacy for artists and arts organizations throughout California. She lives in San Francisco as an empty nester with her husband, Toye Moses. "Life is good and I'm grateful for the great educational foundation I received at Middlebury," she wrote. "Since I wasn't into winter sports, I fell in love with the library."

—Class Correspondents: *Anne Harris Onion (onions@metrocast.net), PO Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; Peter Reynolds (preyn@wcvt.com), 493 Stillmeadow Ln., Addison, VT 05491.*

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Sue Porter Beffel writes from Reston, Va., "I'm getting used to being on my own again after losing Ted last fall. I might as well work another year or two so I'll have enough to travel on when I do retire. I still enjoy planning career development and mentoring activities for the State Department. I stay busy enjoying D.C. cultural activities and visiting family and getting outdoors more." She was headed to Wolf Trap, doing some kayaking, and counting butterflies the weekend after she wrote. ✳ This update came from **May Coors**: "I am going to be a grandmother! Son Kumar and his wife, Casey, are expecting a boy on December 6! I have heard wonderful things about being a grandparent; I just hope I will be able to refrain from meddling and just be super supportive." She was looking forward to seeing Ginny Irving '71 in August. "Though she was not in our class, she became my roommate after mine left junior year and she's one of my closest friends. After I fell apart and ended up in the psych ward in Burlington, Gins used to drive up and see me almost every day. It's always hard for me to write my news because I haven't ever accomplished anything great like so many of you have, but I am coming to realize that having and raising my kids, who are such wonderful people, was a very special contribution to the future of the planet." ✳ We received a news clipping from the *Hartford Courant* that announced that **Stu Parnes** had been appointed the executive director of the Connecticut Humanities Council after having served six months as the interim director. Congratulations!

—Class Correspondents: *Beth Prasse Seeley (beth@seeley.com); Nancy Crawford Sutcliffe (ncrawford_sutcliffe@comcast.net).*

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Correspondent **Barbara Laudenslager Mosley** filed the reunion report, shortly after the fact: Returning to normal life after the high of reunion is hard. My head swims with memories of people and conversations, glimpses of the folks we used to be and the wonder of getting to know the fine people we've become. I roll out my yeast dough and take a tray of cinnamon buns out of the oven, trying to complete orders I missed while celebrating in Vermont. I find myself humming "Walls of Ivy," and I smile as I recall the thunder of Gamaliel Painter canes tapping the old wooden floor of Mead Chapel as classes older than ours walk into this magical space. For those of you who've never experienced a Middlebury reunion, this part is so special: sitting in the chapel by class, heads turn, canes tap, and the thunder grows as earlier and earlier reunion classes walk into Mead Chapel. The noise grows until it seems the floor might just collapse, but it remains, true as ever, as do the connections between us. I look at these older people, and I feel a sense of history and connectedness that brings me to tears. Do you know that there were two women from the class of 1936 at our reunion? 1936! Unbelievable! But there they were, proud as ever, walking down the aisle with President Liebowitz for their 75th reunion. I still get chills when I think of that thunder. ✳ So, here are some of the highlights of reunion, for those who missed it and for those of us who were there. From all over the globe, our class came together. **Stephanie Davis Lett** won the award for traveling the farthest, from Tuen Mun, NT (Hong Kong). **Charlie Rockwell** flew in from Colorado for about two hours. That must win some kind of award, right? The "Shortest Stay at Reunion" award? Twenty-eight percent of our class attended this year, and 52 percent had given a gift by Reunion Weekend. That earned us the Gordon C. Perine '49 Award for being the reunion class other than the 25th or 50th with the greatest increase in total class gift—up 435 percent to $1,653,629. How impressive is that? Even better was this: Honored with a standing ovation, **Churchill Franklin** received the Alumni Plaque Award, given in recognition of his outstanding service to Middlebury! It took our class a long, long time to stop cheering and howling to allow the ceremony to continue. ✳ Over the weekend—with glorious weather—there were walks and talks, lectures (including a great one from Bill McKibben) and tours, pictures and hikes, and meals with friends. Of course, there was a LOT of laughter! And, hey! the A&W still has car-side service! What's not to love? So, come on, you folks who haven't joined us at reunion! Be brave, and come back and join the fun for the 45th. Let all of us get to know the new you! ✳ The weekend ended with a wonderful brunch at the home of Churchill and Janet (Halstead) '72 in Cornwall, a gathering that allowed us one more chance to talk and connect with each other before heading home to our own grown-up lives. Reunion 2011 was a wonderful event, filled with memories, filled with discoveries, filled with friendships, old and new. This wonderful school that brought us all together so many years ago still brings us gifts, and we are so fortunate to have shared this path. The journey continues. ✳ In other 1971 news, **Jim Keyes** began his job as VP of college advancement at the College on June 1. He's responsible for overseeing fund-raising and alumni operations for all of Middlebury's entities, including the undergraduate college and all the graduate schools. He says, "This is a wonderful opportunity to make a contribution to an institution I care about deeply and know well." ✳ We're sorry to report that **Ann Taylor Martin** died April 21 in Albuquerque, N.M., where she had lived for 16 years. A formal obituary notice will appear in a later issue. Meanwhile, here is an excerpt from the tribute written by her longtime partner, Lisa Littlefield: "Ann loved theater, and her beautiful singing voice made her the star of several productions in school and college. An early calling to be a healer was never fully satisfied until she obtained a nursing degree from Vermont College, where she graduated summa cum laude in 1976. Ann was a highly accomplished critical care and emergency room nurse. During a nursing career that spanned three decades, she worked with the first heart transplant patients in New Mexico at Presbyterian Hospital. She also helped run the emergency room at Kaseman Hospital and became nationally certified in emergency nursing. Ann's other true calling was teaching and training new nurses. In 2005, she received a Distinguished Nurse Preceptor award at University Hospital. Ann was also a certified bereavement counselor, and this training was much valued by the families of critically ill and dying patients. Ann had a huge heart and a very generous spirit. She will be missed by the nursing and medical community, by her family, and by all who had contact with her."

—Class Correspondents: *Barbara Laudenslager Mosley (barbaramosley@metrocast.net); Carolyn Ungberg Olivier (colivier@sover.net); Rob Waters (robwaters7012@mindspring.com).*

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REUNION CLASS

Middlebury held a gathering at the 8-Mile Ranch in Livingston, Mont., in July. **Evey Zmudsky LaMont** and husband Tom Singer connected with Churchill '71 and **Janet Halstead Franklin** as well as many Montana alumni over good Western barbecue. ✳ **Stephanie Masten Marcus** works as the science reference librarian at the Library of Congress and recently she was interviewed for the blog Inside Adams. After earning her master's in Russian from Middlebury, she went to D.C. to find a job where she could use her language skills. She ended up in the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress, writing abstracts of foreign language medical articles for an Army contract. A series of other projects followed until 1987 when she was hired for her present position. She says it's still fun after 24 years. ✳ Please put June 8–10 on your calendar and come back to campus for our 40th reunion!

—Class Correspondents: *Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienaheights.edu); Evey Zmudsky LaMont (eveylamont@primetimetransition.com).*

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Jef Groby writes that he retired in May after 31 years of service with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. His last posting was as assistant regional representative for supply in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic

of Congo. ✷ **Jhon Akers** writes, "Update: I am starting my 19th year as a Spanish and French professor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., where Middlebury opened a language academy this summer and I shared an evening program of music for the Spanish classical guitar. My kids are now in high school (Alessandra, a junior), middle school (Isaias, a seventh grader), and elementary (Belen and Matias, third grade). I have moved to Spartanburg after 18 years of commuting from nearby Saluda and then Columbus, N.C.—a 35- to 40-minute drive, now down to 12 minutes: yes! I continue to perform my niche program on Carl Sandburg's love of the Spanish guitar, and I'm preparing for a fall performance at Davidson. I'd love to hear from and see classmates." ✷ **Robert Badger** has published a book called *Fading Memories from a Vermont Hillside* (Shires Press, 2010). It's about the evolution of his family land in the town of Landgrove, Vt. The photographs are ones his father took in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The book recently received an Award of Merit in the category of oral or written history from the Vermont Historical Society. ✷ In other book news, the Rev. **Kathy Wonson Eddy** has coauthored a book, *Gifts in Open Hands: More Worship Resources for the Global Community,* a compilation of Christian songs, prayers, traditions, and stories from other cultures. August marked Kathy's 35th year ministering at Bethany United Church of Christ in Randolph, Vt.

—Class Correspondents: *Deborah Schneider Greenhut (writerDSG@comcast.net); Andrea Thorne (andreathorne8@yahoo.com).*

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Susie "Soupy" Panitz Fillion's excellent new book, *Miss Etta and Dr. Claribel: Bringing Matisse to America,* which was reviewed in the summer issue of the magazine, tells the story of two unmarried sisters from a German-Jewish family in Baltimore who amassed one of the major collections of modern art in America. The book, from noted publisher David Godine of Black Sparrow books, was favorably reviewed in *Publishers Weekly* and got a starred review from *Kirkus*. Susie and husband **Tom Fillion** live in Baltimore in a house in the trees. ✷ Speaking of trees, I (**Greg Dennis**) was asked by the magazine editors to write a story about the tree house that was built in the early '70s. (See box.) While doing some research about it, I discovered that the **David Stone** '74 Tree House Fund is still in existence. Check it out at www.middlebury.edu/studentlife/innovation/treehousefund. ✷ **Mark Polebaum** writes that all three of his children attended or are attending Middlebury: Katie '06, Jessica '08, and Michael '12. Mark adds, "I left my law firm in 2006 (Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr) after 26 years to become general counsel for MFS Investment Management (an investment management firm in Boston). The move has been terrific. Very exciting to learn something new after doing the same thing for so many years." ✷ **Jerry Gundling** lives in Lake Forest, Ill. "Not much new to write. I still work at Abbott Laboratories. I'm still married to Lucy. Peter is still our only child but is now 14 and has started high school. Say hi to everyone for me." ✷ **Barb Passmore Lande-Bronfman** and husband Stuart live in South Burlington, Vt., but also spend about two months in the winter and two weeks in the summer at their home in Snowmass Village in the Aspen area. "I discovered that if I had a nice place to go to my kids will still ski with me, sometimes!" She adds, "Son Lincoln is 24 and is enrolled in Pace Law School in White Plains, N.Y., in their environmental law program this fall. Daughter Emma is a pro skier. Her main sponsor is Marmott, for whom she does photo shoots and filming. She's living her dream, skiing all over the world. Stuart and I are both retired but keep busy with skiing, hiking, golf, and tennis." ✷ I (**Greg**) was in an open-air market in the Bastille district of Paris when I (almost literally) ran into **Gretchen Amussen**. We enjoyed a chat and a cup of coffee in a nearby cafe, on a day when Gretchen, who is still the director of professional development and external relations at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique, was preparing for a quick trip back to the States. ✷ As for me, I occasionally write about College-related topics in my column for the *Addison Independent*, Middlebury's twice-weekly paper. One recent column was a tribute to political science professors David Rosenberg, Murray Dry, and Paul Nelson, while another explored the icy wonders of the Zamboni at the College rink. The column is archived at middleburyvt.blogspot.com. ✷ We're sorry to report that **Carol Simmermacher Smith** passed away on June 10. Our sympathy goes out to her family.

—Class Correspondents: *Greg Dennis (gregdennisvt@yahoo.com); Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net).*

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Jane Roy Brown wrote to tell classmates about the book she coauthored with Susan Haltom, *One Writer's Garden: Eudora Welty's Home Place*, which came out in September from the University Press of Mississippi. "Writing this book was the fulfillment of a long-held dream by Susan, who lives in Mississippi. She restored Eudora Welty's garden—her mother's garden, really—in the last decade of Eudora's life. So many stories unfolded as Susan dug into the soil, and later, into the letters Eudora had written about the garden. Being part of this long, soulful discovery has been a real privilege for this Yankee." ✷ Congratulations go to **Eve Ensler** who was awarded the Tony Awards' 2011 Isabelle Stevenson Award for her "substantial contribution of volunteered time and effort on behalf of a humanitarian social service or charitable organization." Her group, V-Day, has raised $80 million in the battle to stop violence against women. Their biggest project opened in February—City of Joy in Congo. It's a facility for women who have suffered gender violence in the war in Congo. ✷ **Susan Currie Price** writes, "After many years of billing myself as a freelance writer and editor, I have decided to refocus on writing coaching. I've started a Facebook page for this venture, re/Write: Scribbles to Stories, and I'm also blogging on writing at http://startingyourstory.wordpress.com/. Who knew? Helping others to write better and to enjoy writing more is almost more fun than writing my own stuff." ✷ Check out a photo of classmates enjoying a retirement party on page 77.

—Class Correspondents: *Kevin Donahue (donahuek@vibram.us); Nan Rochelle McNicholas (hbmidd@yahoo.com); Joanne Scott (jscott@smcvt.edu).*

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Correspondent **Nancy Clark Herter** reports: We did not have a super turnout for our 35th reunion, but we had a super time! Breakfasts in Proctor, rounds of golf, hikes at Dunmore, strolls through downtown, exploring all that has changed on campus, alumni parade, Convocation, tent parties, late night music, sleeping in the dorms—but best of all, catching up with old familiar faces! I have passed on the baton of class correspondent to **Betsy Sherman Walker** who says, "I am delighted and my itchy fingers and fertile mind can't wait to amass and assemble the continuing stories of our post-Middlebury lives." Send your news and comments to Betsy at bwalker@smcds.org. ✷ Correspondent **Gene O'Neill** reports: **Bill Haas** passed away on July 14 of cancer. He had made his life in the Northwest, working as an architect, and he leaves wife Christine and children Lewis (18), Jane (16), and Sydney (13). He came from Pelham, N.Y., and he, **Jim Vear**, and I traveled to Bread Loaf together our first day on the campus back in '72. I have some stories about him that are worth repeating now. First, after becoming toasted some time in early fall '72, he and I entered Mead Chapel late one evening. If the strength of the hills was His also, it was not clear He was in office that night, as Bill decided that he would somersault the length of the middle aisle of the Chapel. Nothing happened. I thought this was some counter-reformational act, but as it happens, God does not answer either letters or somersaults. Bill played the drums, too. He played in the band throughout college. He solicited me to play in the Hepburn staged play that required a sax player. It was *A Thurber Carnival*. I had no idea what I was doing. Bill played loud enough so that the reviewer said the band sounded "tight"; a compliment that I would welcome years later. In Forest, a dorm we shared in our senior year, I visited Bill's neat room often as I pinballed throughout the dorm that year. He had Vermeer's "Girl With a Pearl Earring" on the wall next to his door. I asked him every three days if he had "done that." He denied it, patiently, on every occasion, and by May he pulled out one of his art history books to show me that it was another artist with too many vowels in his last name who had painted it. ✷ In other 1976 news, congratulations go to **Kevin Cummings** who was named the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2011 New Jersey Award Winner. The president and CEO of Investors Savings Bank, he was recognized for the significant changes that have taken place at the bank over the past few years. He was also recently installed as the first vice chairman of the New Jersey Bankers Assoc. He and wife Patricia live in Summit, N.J., and have four children: Katie, a graduate of Bowdoin; Kevin, a graduate of College of the Holy Cross; Mary, a graduate of Colby; and William, a student at College of the Holy Cross.

—Class Correspondents: *Nancy Clark Herter (ncherter@mxschool.edu); Gene O'Neill (otis3024@optonline.net).*

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REUNION CLASS

Duane Wilcox reports that on the weekend of June 5th, he and wife Debi were able to get together with Mike and Phyllis Wendell Mackey '78. Duane and Debi stayed with Phyl and Mike while Duane's son Geoff was married to the lovely Lisa Mortensen at Odiorne Point State Park in Rye, N.H. A great time was had by all. ✷ This summer **Ellen Fairchild Martyn** finished her cross-country bike ride on the Northern Tier route that she started last summer, riding 2,400 miles from Fargo, N.D., to Bar Harbor, Maine. She posted daily to her blog so friends could follow along vicariously across the fields of the Midwest, south of the Great Lakes, through the Adirondacks of New York, and over the Green and White mountains in New England. Check it out at http://efmartyn.edublogs.org. ✷ I was sorry to learn that **Laurie Ferguson** passed away on April 17. Though our paths at Midd crossed briefly, Laurie was one of those people who always left you feeling better about yourself than before you bumped into her. We remember her contagious smile and share our thoughts and prayers with her family. An obituary

ALUMNI STORIES

Greg Dennis '74 recounts the years the tree house near the golf course was in existence.

DURING THE DEEP WINTER OF 1971, two Middlebury first-years spent long evenings talking in front of a fireplace in Stewart Hall. As the warm hearth fed their creativity, Dan Flanagan '74 and John Abbott '74 decided to build a tree house. On a blue-sky winter day, they went out to find the tree that would hold their dream—Dan on snowshoes, John and classmates Debbie Hutchinson '74 and Eileen Rockefeller '74 on cross-country skis.

"Being freshman, we really had no idea of Middlebury geography," Dan recalls. "We took off from the corner of the old gym and headed southeast. At the end of a long field stood the most magnificent tree I had ever seen, an American elm with a champagne-glass shape and full canopy." Dan says he and John immediately knew this was where they would build: "The four of us proceeded to dance in a circle, celebrating in the field below the tree in the snow. I was practicing my cartwheel technique while wearing snowshoes."

Three other members of the Class of 1974—David Stone, Tucker Swan, and Craig Severance—soon joined the effort. The Crest Room became the epicenter of their planning. Without any engineering background, they figured out how to build a multistory house 50 feet up in an elm tree. Dean of Students Erica Wonnacott recalled in a later interview that she was visited by "three bushy-tailed freshman" seeking permission for the project. At a time when the Middlebury campus was being rocked by the Vietnam War, it seemed an innocent-enough idea. Dean Wonnacott gave her assent.

The Tree House Five began construction in the late winter of 1971, enlisting friends to help them haul timber out to the tree. But as the snow melted, they realized the spot they had chosen was adjacent to the seventh tee of the college golf course. "That spring golfers were greeted by sounds of hammering and sawing, which teed off many of them," Dan laughs. To placate the golfers, Craig recalls, "We occasionally left a bottle of Jack (Daniels) by the tee."

As they built their home in the sky, the five kept a diary. Entries show them trying to figure out how to build the house so it was habitable, had creature comforts, a rope-and-pulley system for hauling up food and water, and a lattice of support beams so the limbs of the giant elm could move in the frequent winds. ("During windy nights," says Craig, "the kerosene lamps would sway and the whole thing would creak and groan like a ship at sea.") They "borrowed" old barn board from nearby farms to clad the structure. Craig and John spent the summer of 1971 in Middlebury, continuing the slow process of construction and pilfering barn board for the walls. The builders' progress was steady, if not always clearheaded. The diary, for example, records a day where one of them "screwed around with too many joints and didn't get anything done." As summer turned to fall, the college administration grew increasingly concerned about the project. But the determined builders pretended not to hear Old Chapel's directives. "Every time we were told to stop," Dan muses, "we just built another floor." To counter the administration's demands that they end the project, the five young men invited the deans up for tea. A contingent from Old Chapel came out on a glorious autumn afternoon to see the tree house, ascending the makeshift ladders and wooden planks hammered into the tree. "Dean Wonnacott was the last one to climb up," Dan recalls. "I was behind her, just in case I needed to catch a falling dean of students. As we approached the last ladder, Erica froze. I knew we had a problem—because if she didn't make it up there, our project would be sunk. So I very unceremoniously placed my hand on her rear end and pushed her up the last two feet, into the safety of the first floor." It worked. Wonnacott, Dean Dennis O'Brien, and their colleagues were captivated by the magic of the tree house. They allowed it to stand.

View through the geodesic-domed rooftop window

The structure expanded to have decks facing east and west, sleeping lofts, a woodstove, a dentist's chair, a dumb waiter between floors, and a stereo system powered by an old car battery. By the fall of our senior year, the tree house was a home-away-from-home. "I would often study on the top deck, listening to Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young singing 'Our House,' " Dan recalls. "On the top deck, a yellow canopy of fall leaves surrounded me, with the sun streaming through the leaves and giving everything a golden glow." No account of the adventure is complete without a mention of the Full-Moon Parties. They were the occasion for intense conversations, loud music, and the consumption of Mateus, Boone's Farm, and other substances. "There was one party I remember in particular, where I lit candles in all the windows and sat on the top deck waiting for my friends to show up," Dan remembers. "Off in the distance I could hear voices and see a series of lights bobbing along as people arrived across the field." Craig adds, "We had venison stew and metal bowls brimming with fresh fruit and so many people that it was practically impossible to move. Guitars, mandolins, drumming, and truly inspired singing propelled the glowing orb through the nights."

The tree house built in an elm tree

A year after graduation, though, the tree house itself was gone. A boy staying there had lit candles on the first floor and then fallen asleep on the second floor. He woke up with the tree and tree house in flames around him and barely escaped by using the rope to rappel to the ground. Dean Wonnacott broke the news of the fire to the Tree House Five in a letter, which Tucker Swan has to this day. She made it clear that there would be no second tree house. But she also wrote of her affection for the endeavor: "You should all feel very proud I think of the kind of elan and skill that led you to build it and for the great pleasure the tree house gave a large number of Middlebury students since 1971. It was a landmark and will now become a legend. Not many of us have a chance to author a legend!"

Some years after we graduated, thanks to the efforts of classmate Mike Schlegel and others, the Class of 1974 established a fund honoring the memory of the tree house and of builder David Stone, who died suddenly several years ago. The fund supports "creative student projects that benefit Middlebury students, the environment, or the community." See the 1974 column for more information.

will appear in a future issue. ✳ Check out page 77 for a 1977 wedding photo!
—Class Correspondent: *Bob Lindberg (rcl@linrip.com).*

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Philippe Burnham writes that he is currently revamping an evolving physician-dispensed cosmaceutical skin-care business, which is part of the Kinerase megabrand portfolio. ✳ **Tamsin Lorraine** recently published *Deleuze and Guattari's Immanent Ethics: Theory, Subjectivity, and Duration* (SUNY Press, 2011). She is a professor of philosophy at Swarthmore College and is also the author of *Irigaray and Deleuze: Experiments in Visceral Philosophy* and *Gender, Identity, and the Production of Meaning.* ✳ In the summer issue we reported about a mini-reunion of classmates on the slopes of Sugarbush. Check out a photo of the event on page 77.
—Class Correspondents: *David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com); Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com); Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com).*

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In June Pres. Obama announced that he was nominating **Christopher Merrill** to a post on the National Council on the Humanities. A poet, essayist, journalist, and translator, he is the director of the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa. ✳ **Mary Lee Johnson** (formerly Mary Lee Krahn) writes, "In October 2010 I married Tom Johnson and moved from Jamestown, N.Y., to Rochester, N.Y. I now serve on the staff of the Upstate New York Synod of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) as the assistant to the Bishop for Candidacy. My role is to oversee the process by which Lutherans from upstate New York are approved for seminary and ministry. After a dozen or so years as a hospice chaplain, this is a different kind of ministry, but challenging and interesting and inspiring, as well. My younger son, Martin, just graduated from Middlebury this past May, so I'll miss the several trips back that I'd been making for the last four years. Tom retired in the spring, and I work part time, so we're looking forward to having more time for traveling and visiting our families and friends." ✳ The ever-effervescent and now cancer-free **Joanellen Sullivan** writes, "On June 15th, to celebrate my remission from leukemia, some friends and I were treated to a special preview screening of Dreamworks' movie, *The Help*. Among those in attendance were **Majie Zeller**, **Mary Ann Preskul-Ricca**, **Kim Ulrich Whelan**, **Hamish Blackman**, Randy '80 and **Mary MacKenzie Corke**, Jennifur Fields Condon '80, Jim '81 and Cindy Yasinski Tenner '81, and Jane Hosie-Bounar '81. In addition to being able to thank my wonderful friends for their support over these past months, we were treated to one of the most moving films that I have ever seen. Whether or not you've read the book, you will love this movie and I encourage all of you to see it." ✳ Doesn't that warm your heart? Doesn't it make you want to go to the movie? Even better, doesn't it make you want to receive news like this more regularly and to joyfully share it with fellow classmates? Mary and I (**Nancy**) have completed our multi-edition cycle of the newsletters and will hand off the task to the next lucky classmates as I'm moving to Maryland, and Mary's moving on to the next project. We have faith that two of you out there are longing to play the coveted role of class correspondent. If as a class we can step up our donations to our alma mater, then we can certainly volunteer our time and talent (although the job really does not take a lot of time). The next edition will lie blank on the page, beckoning you to fill it in. If you are interested, please contact the alumni editor, Sara Marshall, at smarshal@middlebury.edu.
—Class Correspondents: *Mary MacKenzie Corke (mary.corke@gmail.com); Nancy Limbacher Meyer (limes79@yahoo.com).*

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Nancy Smith Brennan sent news about her book, *Active Against Cancer,* a guide to improving cancer recovery with exercise. She writes, "As a lifelong athlete, a lifelong writer who has a background in biology, and as a recent four-year cancer survivor, I wrote this book to help other cancer patients realize the value of exercise in their recovery. The new medical consensus is that exercise can help almost all cancer patients during their treatment and beyond."
—Class Correspondents: *Anne Cowherd Kallaher (acowherd@cng-inc.com); Susanne Rohardt Strater (scstrater@videotron.ca).*

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Elaine King Nickerson reports on reunion: The "official" attendance list included only 60 of our classmates, but I swear there were many more. It felt like so many came back to this reunion. We had wonderful weather, which is rare for us, I know! Those of us who stayed on campus were pleased to find our room assignments in Le Château! What a great dorm and it has a great lounge where our classmates gathered to relax, visit, and raise a glass each evening. The College put on a great reunion with hikes, road races, Convocation, and tours of the NEW Starr building. Formerly known as "the library," it now has classrooms and faculty offices (but still has the beautiful reading room). Nights included dancing and visiting with classmates. Everyone I spoke to said they had a ball, and our only regrets were that many of our classmates could not attend. We all encourage you to make it in five years if at all possible. One thing we need to remember is to bring a docking station for music! ✳ **Sue Dutcher Wagley** is stepping down as a class correspondent and we're looking for someone to take over. Let me know if you'd be willing. Many thanks go to Sue for her years of serving!
—Class Correspondents: *Elaine King Nickerson (eknick@aol.com); Sue Dutcher Wagley (sue@wagleyranch.com).*

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REUNION CLASS

Judy Bonzi writes, "I continue to sit on two olive oil taste panels (Univ. of Calif., Davis, and the California Olive Oil Council), and in June I judged my first olive oil competition for the Napa County Fair. I'm drawing a fine line between hip and kitch, as the 23 olive trees I own are in galvanized livestock troughs in my front yard, biding their time before I get a small farm and am able to put them in the ground. I also just took up sculling with the North Bay Rowing Club on the Petaluma River and LOVE it! Watch out as my next new update might be about some race I was in. Speaking of racing, I rode about a half dozen centuries last summer and rode in several more this summer." ✳ **Pat Mahoney** sent sad news in June: "I learned from **Liz Cascella Auran** that **Richard Scully** passed away on June 10. Liz had contacted me a few weeks before to tell me that she had met up with Nadine Scully '83 at the memorial service for **Larkin McPhee Perese**'s brother, who had died of ALS. Nadine told Liz that Richard had also recently been diagnosed with ALS. I was then in touch with Nadine and it appeared that Richard had taken a sudden turn and was losing ground rapidly at that point." We send our sympathy to Richard's family. ✳ The *Stamford Advocate* reported in June that **Peter Thalheim** had joined the Greenwich-Old Greenwich (Conn.) offices of William Raveis Real Estate. He's been a builder since 1995 and specializes in new construction and the analysis of existing homes to determine their development potential. ✳ In April a book coauthored by **Jeffrey Legro** was published by Cornell Univ. Press. Entitled *In Uncertain Times: American Foreign Policy after the Berlin Wall and 9/11,* the book considers how policymakers react to dramatic developments on the world stage. Contributors include officials from the two Bush and Clinton administrations and a group of scholars. Jeffrey is the Randolph P. Compton Professor in the Department of Politics at the Univ. of Virginia. ✳ **Bill Joyce** is serving as the executive director of the Pulaski (N.Y.) Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce. He and wife Liz Lonergan live in Sandy Creek, N.Y., with daughter Rosaleen (12).
—Class Correspondents: *Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomomgo@bellsouth.net); Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com).*

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Pegine Grayson serves as VP of Whittier Trust Co., based in Pasadena, Calif. With a JD from USC Gould School of Law, she was formerly a public interest lawyer. At Whittier, she establishes and manages a number of family foundations and donor-advised funds, helping families give to worthy charities. ✳ **Kim Adams Weiss** was recently appointed to the Ho-Ho-Kus (N.J.) Mayor and Council to serve out an unexpired term. With her two daughters in college and her retail-yarn store, Close Knit, up and running, she feels she has more time for volunteer activities.
—Class Correspondents: *Ruth Kennedy (ruth.kennedy4@gmail.com); Siobhan Leahy Ulrich (sulrich@westminster-school.org).*

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In June, **Alex Prud'homme**'s latest book, *The Ripple Effect: The Fate of Fresh Water in the Twenty-First Century* was published by Scribner. While completing his collaboration with great-aunt Julia Child on her memoir, *My Life in France,* he began to talk with her about the French obsession with bottled water, which had spread to the States. From that spark of interest, he moved on to investigate the evolving story of the freshwater supply, finding that as the climate warms and the world population grows, demand for water has surged but supplies are static or dropping. After exhaustive research, he has produced a comprehensive account, with several dramatic stories and colorful characters, of what's happening to our fresh water, a topic that could be a dominant issue in the near future. ✳ **Mark Payne** was recently part of a panel discussion called "Design Thinking: Dead or Alive?" As cofounder, president, and head of idea development at Fahrenheit 212, an innovation consultancy, he has over 20 years of experience in the creation of new businesses, products, and brands. He and wife Elizabeth live in Woodstock, N.Y., with son Jacob. ✳ Check out page 77 for a photo of the Team Yahoo! mini-reunion in March.
—Class Correspondents: *Elizabeth Eppes Winton (ewinton@mac.com); Andrew Zehner (andrew.zehner@pfizer.com).*

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Kim Davis Gluck sent news about a recent mini-reunion: "**Don Hall** was unable to make our 25th reunion in June of 2010 due to his flight from Seattle being

canceled. He and his family were very sorry to miss this wonderful event. So this year, we had a little make-up reunion with Don and **John** and **Mimi Harding Owen** in Harrison, Maine. While Don still missed seeing many good friends from his college days, he and his family did enjoy this smaller gathering of Midd buddies." As for news about Kim, Boston Trust & Investment Management Co. recently announced that she had joined the firm as senior VP and portfolio manager. She is working on sustainability investments. ✳ Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian agency, recently announced that **Andrea Koppel** had joined the organization as VP of global engagement and policy. She has 25 years of communications, journalism, and advocacy experience. Prior to joining Mercy Corps, she served as director of international communications at the American Red Cross.

—Class Correspondents: *Ruth Lohmann Davis (rl.davis@comcast.net); Denah Lohmann Toupin (denaht@comcast.net).*

86 **Kate Wallace Perrotta** reports: Reunion was a great success. It was wonderful to see everyone who made it back, many with spouses and children included, and it was nice of the weather to cooperate as well. It's hard to believe that most of us met in the fall of 1982—almost 30 years ago. **Elizabeth Needham** recently posted the following which presents a nice summation of how many of us feel about Middlebury: "I have had this quote since before we graduated and it has been with me each and every time I have returned to Peacham, Vt., to Charlotte, Vt., to Burlington, Vt.; it has stayed with me as have my memories of our four (or three for those who ventured abroad) years together and it helps me remember why I get a pang crossing into and through Vermont (that Essex-Charlotte ferry should be in one of those Bell/Verizon commercials that makes you cry). Anyway, here it is—to our 25th reunion via the words of Alice Webster Wakefield: 'I remember other places I've seen, but always, when I return to Vermont, the air smells sweeter, and life feels more complete than when I am away.' " ✳ **Gary Domoracki** and wife Christie were in attendance at reunion with all six of their children and they were happy to share the news that daughter Kelsey was starting at Middlebury this fall. ✳ **Monica Carroll McCabe** was on campus as well for the festivities and her daughter, Jane, is also a member of the Class of 2015. ✳ **Jeannie Batal Varney** made the trip up from Virginia where she is filling her empty-nester hours as a health and nutrition coach. Jeannie is the founder of Eat Right, Be Fit, Live Well LLC and is busier than ever and enjoying every minute of it. ✳ **Meg Coleman** reports that she and her family recently moved to Washington, D.C., which is a far cry from the Portland, Maine, area they called home. While they are adjusting to the city life, they are thrilled with everything D.C. has to offer. ✳ As of this issue, I am stepping down as class correspondent and **Becky Spahr Frazier** is taking over. Here is her first report: Reunion was incredible! Approximately 160 returned for our 25th and no one was disappointed. Our reunion chairs were **Brad Robins**, **Ashley Bourne Dewey**, and **David Ballard**—thanks for all your hard work! They were assisted by a fun reunion committee consisting of 58 members. Reunion plans started to gel at the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September 2010. Numerous conference calls ensued followed by some intense fund-raising. The results were impressive and led to our class being awarded the Raymond A. Ablondi '52 Cup for the reunion class with the largest total class gift at $1,653,629! A special thanks to all reunion committee members! ✳ Our 25th started with a Thursday night party at **Brad** and **Ashley Dewey**'s fabulous party house on Lake Champlain. About 75 attended! The bus ride back to campus was quite memorable—did we stop and partake in some cow tipping? ✳ Friday was filled with a Green Mountain bike ride led by **Ann Albern Olmsted** and **Lyle Fulkerson**. About 20 riders turned out and they logged an impressive 40-plus miles! There was also a golf shamble and the class of '86 destroyed the Ralph Myhre golf course. A faithful group headed to Lake Dunmore to relive old times. Of course many of us quenched our thirst at Mr. Up's (Long Island Iced Teas were the drink of choice) and many of us pined for the Rosebud and the Alibi. ✳ **David Ballard** organized some great golf on Saturday. It was spectacular looking back at the campus, the mountains, and the vast array of reunion tents set up for our Saturday night dinner. Following our class dinner on Saturday (we were impressively the last class to vacate our tent) most headed to McCullough for some great music and dancing. Discussions of late-night activities dominated the breakfast conversation on Sunday morning, as most gathered for one last meal. ✳ Please become a Facebook friend—Middlebury College Class of 1986. We have 171 members. It's like a class reunion 365 days a year. This is a great way to keep in touch. Lots of memorable comments and pictures have been posted following our reunion. Join us! ✳ **Ed** and **Jennifer Reuling Homer** sent this note: "We're happy to begin our 20th year working at Christchurch School in tidewater Virginia, where Ed still pursues his passion for football as the head football coach. Our son, Win, is a senior this fall—he is ranked the #1 offensive lineman in the state of Virginia. After mulling over scholarship offers from UVA, Virginia Tech, NC State, Harvard, and Penn, Win has verbally committed to play football at Boston College, where he hopes to study art. We're already looking forward to frequent trips back to New England! (It just so happens that the #2 lineman in the state of Virginia also plays for Ed—not bad at a school with fewer than 100 boys!)"

—Class Correspondents: *Becky Spahr Frazier (frazierbeck@comcast.net); Torsten Garber (skytag@verizon.net).*

87 REUNION CLASS Children's author **Susanna Leonard Hill** was at the Sherman (Conn.) Library in June for a presentation and book signing. Her books include *Punxsutawney Phyllis, Can't Sleep Without Sheep,* and *April Fool, Phyllis!* She has a master's and M.Ed. in counseling psychology and special education of children with learning disabilities from Teacher's College, Columbia Univ. ✳ The *Boston Business Journal* recently profiled **Jason Robart**, who is the senior VP for organizational effectiveness and chief human resource officer at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. An avid cyclist, he often bikes to work from his home in Stow, a 26-mile ride each way. ✳ **Joe Ganley** was named as one of the 2011 Legal Elite, the top attorneys in Nevada who are chosen by their peers. He's a senior litigation partner of the law firm Hutchison & Steffen. ✳ Medela, a breast pump and breast-feeding products manufacturer, recently announced that **Caroline Pu Archibald** had been promoted to the position of president. Previously she had served as VP of the professional business, which focuses on hospital customers. ✳ Don't forget to put June 8–10 on your calendar for our 25th reunion! See you on campus!

—Class Correspondents: *Tom Funk (tomfunk@gmail.com); Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com).*

88 **Beth Zogby** reports, "I went to visit Katie and **Fred Sunderman** in Saginaw, Mich., over Memorial Day weekend. They were wonderful hosts, as were their children, Will and Chloe."

—Class Correspondents: *Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatko@yahoo.com); Beth Zogby (zogby@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

89 **Porter Ball Knight** recently changed the name of her company to Productivity Vermont. She also added a business partner, a certified project manager. The company specializes in personalized workplace strategies, offering large-group workshops or one-on-one consulting. ✳ After years of teaching classes at Georgia State and the Univ. of Georgia on how to become an entrepreneur, **Jim Beach** and partner Chris Hanks have started TheEntrepreneurSchool.com, an online education program. As part of launching the site, they also wrote and published a book called *School for Startups,* which is billed as "the beginner's guide to low-risk entrepreneurship."

—Class Correspondent: *John Mutterperl (john@baldyconsulting.com).*

90 **Peter Holmes à Court** recently resigned as chairman of Brand Sydney and the Greater Sydney Partnership, to spend a year in Europe with his family. He's living in rural France, riding a bike, and trying to write a book about artisanal bike production in France. His rugby team, the South Sydney Rabbitohs, is still struggling, but providing many more highlights than lowlights these days. Photos of a year in rural France and his adventure of being sole parent to his seven-year-old twin girls (while his wife and 12-year-old twin boys roll around Europe for a year out of school) can be found through facebook.com/peterhac. Peter was planning to take his new bike on the full Alpe d'Huez stage the day after the Tour in July. ✳ **Kevin Bittenbender** and his family (three kids) live in Alstead, N.H. (southwest corner), and they all enjoy spending as much time on skis as possible, either on water or snow. Kevin is the build group leader for Bensonwood Homes, specializing in "high-performance" buildings, timber framing, and custom architectural millwork. This past year he worked with the Midd Solar Decathlon team on the house that they built for the Solar Decathlon 2011 competition this fall in D.C. ✳ Movin' on up: **Stefanie Cooper** is assistant secretary for Land and Forest Conservation, for the State of Massachusetts. In April, Steph hosted **Tizz Strachan Miller** in a re-running of the Boston Marathon, with **Andrew Rosenshine**, **Bill Eaton**, **Sam Hodgson**, **Schuyler Garrett Ryon**, **Kristen Peterjohn Brown**, and Katie Ray Chang '89 in attendance for the festivities. ✳ In other 1990 news, **Peter Snow** has left Christopher Newport Univ. in Virginia, where he was an assistant professor of English and honors faculty member, to take the position of assistant professor of elementary education at the Kenai River Campus of Kenai Peninsula College, a part of the Univ. of Alaska Anchorage.

—Class Correspondents: *Dawn Cagley Drew (dmd_phr@hotmail.com); Elizabeth Toder (eatoder@gmail.com).*

91 Many thanks go to **Bill Driscoll** and **Kate Kelley** who have been serving as class correspondents for the past 15 years. They have stepped down and **Marika Holmgren**

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and **Lucy Randolph Liddell** are taking over. They filed the following report: The Class of 1991 gathered at Middlebury for a fantastic 20-year reunion. The turnout was great, and several of our favorite bands from back-in-the-day got together to rock the house. ✳ **Tracey Spruce** was nice enough to give us a rundown of some of the people who made it back to reunion, along with some mini-updates as available: **Bryan Thomas** lives in New York State with his wife and two girls; **Matt Bonner** has two children, lives in Marblehead, Mass., and works in the music industry; **Nick Warendorf** has two children and works as a veterinarian in Massachusetts; **Rob Tod** still makes beer in Maine; **Jen Hart** is a VP at HarperCollins in NYC, has two children, and lives in New Jersey; **Ursula Shaffer Pontieri** has two children; **Isabel Cernada Purdy** has two boys; **Kerstin Carlson Le Floch** has three boys and lives in the D.C. area; **Mary Beth Dingledy** is a public defender in Washington State; **Liz Hopper Whitelam** is a supermom of one in Reading, Mass.; **Karen Gnuse Nead** is a doctor in upstate New York with three kids; **Michelle Zagami Seeley** is a doctor in Connecticut with four kids (all boys!); **Louise Totten Knabe** has two kids, works for Procter & Gamble, and lives in Boston; **Page Dickinson Edmunds** has two kids, lives in New York, and works in publishing in Manhattan. **Mariette Johnson Wharton** (who got together at Kirkwood Ski Resort in February with **Marika Holmgren** to show the kids how us Midd Kids shred the "pow") was also at reunion, as were **Leland Hart**, **Mo Tooker**, **Jerry Ward**, **Bill Tobin**, **Chris Waddell**, **Johannes Ernharth**, **Rod Prudencio**, **Dana Cronin Ostermiller**, and **Grace Garcia Lessing**, and many, many others! As for **Tracey Spruce**, she started her own law firm with a partner last October. Congratulations, Tracey! ✳ The Saturday night dinner served Allagash beer, brewed by our own **Rob Tod** out of Portland, Maine. After the dinner, 51 Main hosted our old class bands on stage. There was a combination of bands that included members **Johannes Ernharth**, **Rod Prudencio**, **Barney Hodges**, **Nick Warendorf**, **Bryan Thomas**, **Pat Berry**, and **Matt Bonner**, and all the reports indicate that they sounded amazing, particularly given how little time they had to rehearse. ✳ Attendee **Vanessa Trien** writes, "It was so great to be back in Middlebury and see old friends. When I first drove onto campus, I was overcome with how stunningly beautiful it looked and all the memories it held, and that feeling lasted the whole weekend. Thanks to everyone who came to see li'l ole me play a little guitar, shake some shakers, and play with parachutes in the kids' area." ✳ **Dennis Schaecher** adds, "A huge thanks to the bands/musicians that played. It was great to hear you all again. So much talent, and I was amazed how you stepped right into it after 20 years. I really appreciate you all making the effort, adding another dimension to a fantastic weekend." ✳ From **Dawn Dispenza Ray** came, "It was so great to be back in gorgeous Middlebury. The changes to the campus and town are all amazing! I wish that I could go back again. Twenty years flew by way too fast. Reconnecting with friends was the best part. Let's keep in touch." ✳ **Victoria Fischer Luksch** sums up: "It was really fun to catch up with you all and see such nice familiar faces, which by the way look just as great as 20 years ago! Everyone seems to be enjoying life, which is the most important thing of all!" ✳ From **Marybeth Dingledy** we heard, "Every time I come back, I feel like I'm time traveling. So worth the trip to catch up with everyone and reconnect!" ✳ **Andrew Resnik** adds, "So fantastic to see everybody. Thanks to those who made it. You all created a great weekend. Midd has seldom if ever looked better." ✳ And a few updates came from the folks that weren't able to make it. (But many of who, inspired by the great pix on Facebook, are already planning to come to number 25.) ✳ **Catherine Speth McCullough** recently accepted a position at the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League as their senior development officer. "The League is a great organization, and I'm thrilled to be there. I worked there 16 years ago and so it has been fun to come home. My children, Cameron (girl, 7) and Rodgers (5.5), are an adventure every day. Both love the water, being on the boat, and all things outdoors. I got to see **Stephanie Blair Kirkwood** and her family last summer." She was excited for their return visit this August. ✳ **Chris Waddell**'s commencement speech to the Middlebury Class of 2011 was quoted in the *New York Times* Words of Wisdom column, which highlighted the best of this year's commencement speeches.

—Class Correspondents: *Marika Holmgren (holmgren.marika@gmail.com); Lucy Randolph Liddell (lucy_liddell@yahoo.com).*

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Tamara Caruso and Jeffrey Miller are happy to announce their marriage on July 16 at Acadia Vineyards in Underwood, Wash. They reside in Portland, Ore., with their four daughters. "We were married on a beautiful sunny day in our vineyards and were able to toast to each other with our own wines." In addition to managing money for investors, Tammy and Jeff own Cerulean Skies Winery in Hood River, Ore. ✳ Rabbi **Jonathan Freirich** has left the small synagogue in Lake Tahoe, Calif., that he was serving to become the new associate rabbi at Temple Beth El in Charlotte, N.C.

—Class Correspondents: *Sara Garcia McCormick (smg70@gate.net); Tammy Caruso Miller (dalton.tammy@gmail.com).*

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Liz Craig writes, "I've been running my graphic design business, Queen Esther Design, for over eight years now and while I enjoy it, I'm looking for a full-time job. I'm interested in publication/editorial design. I love telling stories through text, imagery, and how they relate to each other." ✳ This summer **Nina Silver** played Mrs. Rogers in *D Is for Dog*, a comedy/drama written by Katie Polebaum '06 that ran at Studio/Stage in L.A. from July 1 to August 7. ✳ VLP Law Group recently announced that **Whit Bissell** had joined its partnership. With a JD from the UCLA School of Law, he was previously at the San Francisco office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and is a member of the State Bar of California.

—Class Correspondents: *Maria Diaz (latinawriting@gmail.com); Laura LeClair (elsydash@gmail.com).*

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Scott Godes and wife Deborah are happy to announce the birth of daughter Sierra Harley on February 17. ✳ In Vail, Colo., **Heather Dorf Rawlings** was planning to watch the Fourth of July parade with **Kristi Matthews Leech** and her two adorable children, her parents, Mart '66 and Carol Anderson Matthews '68, Heather's dad, Bob Dorf '65, and her brother, Erik '92, and Chuck Gately '62 and family. ✳ **Anne Brahic** writes, "I'm still enjoying life in Park City, Utah, where I live with husband Jon Kusner and daughter Lucie. I continue to work as a production set designer for television around the country and keep busy designing shows such as the 2011 TVLand Awards, the 25th Anniversary concerts for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at Madison Square Garden, the CMT Music Awards (Art Directors Guild nomination), and the Sundance Channel series *Spectacle: Elvis Costello with...* (Gemini Award nomination). In my spare time, I have enjoyed refurbishing a 16-foot-long 1960 Airstream trailer, in which I now get to enjoy camping trips around the beautiful West with my family. I'll have to drag it back east for a New England trip one of these days. Happy trails all!" ✳ **Beth Rasin** is an editor at the *Chronicle of the Horse*, where she handles the Horse Care section of the magazine, evaluates editorial submissions, and writes and edits news and features. She and her husband are building their own farm in Hume, Va. ✳ Author **David Stahler** recently published *Spinning Out* (Chronicle Books, 2011), a young adult novel. He and wife Erica (Lombard) '92 have two children, Julian (9) and Maida (4).

—Class Correspondents: *Mary Strife Cairns (mcairns@middlebury.edu); Gene Swift (geneswift@gmail.com).*

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Thanks to our classmates for continuing to keep us in the loop of their lives. We have some repeat and brand-new contributors for this edition of the Class of 1995 class notes. ✳ **Shannon Anderson-Finch** is completing a two-year expat assignment in Hyderabad, India, with Deloitte. She is the learning lead for Communication Excellence, a program for building the English, business, and cross-cultural communication skills of Deloitte's 10,000+ professionals in India. Husband Jeff recently returned to the U.S. to take a job in Dallas. Shannon looks forward to continuing with Deloitte in Dallas when her assignment ends in January and she hopes to meet other Midd alums in her new home city. ✳ **Tyler Newton** writes, "Seen together at dinner at Patroon in NYC on June 23: **H. James Stahl**, **Nick Weiss**, **Josh Stinchcomb**, **Jonathan Shepherd**, **Horace "Cort" Corbin**, **Mike Ricciardelli**, **Darius Brawn**, **Brian Smith**, and me. Great steak, seafood, and cheese naan was enjoyed by all." ✳ **Emily Aikenhead Hannon** and husband Chris are excited to announce the birth of Lauren Kate. "She is the perfect addition to our family and big sister Sabrina (2) loves her already. Lauren was born June 18 and looks just like Sabrina!" ✳ **Valerie Barth Najera** writes to announce the birth of her second child, daughter Amelia Rose Najera, on June 7. ✳ **Maria Arias-Clarke** recently transferred from the NYC Mayor's Office to become the assistant director of finance at the Health and Hospitals Corporation. She continues to enjoy her children, Brianna (7) and Aidan (5), while looking forward to celebrating her 10th anniversary with Eugene this coming February. She enjoyed a brief visit with **Yinca Williams** when Yinca was on her way to a wedding in the Dominican Republic. ✳ **Aerie Treska**, MA English '99, and husband Chris Pierce welcomed Calder Pierce on August 13, 2010. He joins big brothers Owen (7) and Baxter (5). Aerie teaches AP and senior English at Roland Park Country School in Baltimore, Md. ✳ **Nick Toren** writes, "My wife, our son, and I welcomed our baby daughter, Neve, on February 26. She's sleeping and eating well and we couldn't ask for sweeter smiles. She got to meet Chris '94 and **Inger Lund Carter** and their daughter, Berit, recently for bagels at Inger's house. Nice to have familiar faces in the neighborhood here in Santa Monica, Calif." Nick recently acted in a world premier play, *Silent Sky*, by

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

Bread Loaf School of English

In March **Wesley McNair** (MA, MLitt '75) was appointed as the poet laureate of Maine by the governor. ✷ After earning his Doctor of Chiropractic degree from the National Univ. of Health Sciences in Chicago, **Clive Bridgham** (MA '79) opened his practice in Barrington, R.I., and is the only board-certified chiropractic sports physician in the state. ✷ Prof. **Elaine Handley** (MLitt '81), who teaches at the Northeast Center, Saratoga Unit of Empire State College, SUNY, was the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching for the 2010–2011 academic year. ✷ **Joan Connor** (MA '84) recently had a new book published entitled *How to Stop Loving Someone* (Leapfrog Press, 2011), which won the 2010 Leapfrog Fiction Contest. She is a professor at Ohio Univ. and in Fairfield University's low-residency MFA program. ✷ **Jane Steiner** (MA '89) recently retired after 24 years of teaching English to Fort Atkinson (Wis.) high school students. She was also the forensics coach for several years. ✷ After serving as an adjunct for 13 years, **Dorothy Gray** (MA '90) is serving two years as an assistant professor of English at Kenai River Campus of Kenai Peninsula College, Univ. of Alaska Anchorage. ✷ **Ralph Ostrom** ('91) was just elected to the United Methodist UMCSC board of trustees for the *Advocate* newspaper and continues to serve on the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. ✷ Last spring **Daniel Picker** (MA '92) published his memoir of studying with Seamus Heaney at Harvard in the *Oxonian Review* and a book review in *Rain Taxi Review of Books.* He enjoys Midd alumni gatherings in Philadelphia and bumped into some Bread Loaf faculty members at Princeton when he took "Gore & Glory: Early Heroic Literature." ✷ On July 24, 2010, **Courtney Giknis** (MA '09) married **Ben Krahn** (MA '09) in Mead Chapel on the Middlebury campus. ✷ **Colleen O'Boyle** (MA '09) is serving as the interim principal at Da Vinci Charter Design School in Hawthorne, Calif. Previously she was the academic dean of both Da Vinci Design and Da Vinci Science. ✷ **Charles Temple** (MA '10) won the first *Jeopardy!* Teacher Tournament and took home $100,000. He is an English teacher at Ocracoke School in North Carolina.

French School

In September, **Nancy Means Wright** (MA '65) came out with a sequel to *Midnight Fires* called *The Nightmare.* Once again she features Mary Wollstonecraft as the main character of a murder mystery. ✷ Dr. **Gail Weisberg Slater** (MA '73) was one of 10 teachers of French in the U.S. selected to participate in a two-week course sponsored by the French Embassy at the Instituts Universitaires de Formation des Maîtres in Rouen, France, this past June. She works as a resource specialist at NYU where she works with bilingual and English as a second language teachers throughout New York State. ✷ **C. Maury Devine** (MA '74) has joined the Technip board of directors. Her career has included senior executive positions with ExxonMobil, various assignments in the U.S. govt. in the Dept. of Justice, the White House, and the Drug Enforcement Admin., and numerous board positions including on those of Det Norske Veritas, FMC, and Petroleum Geo Services. ✷ **Elyse Secker Perweiler** (MA '74) is the director of the New Jersey Area Health Education Center Program and associate director of planning, development, and public policy for the New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging. ✷ **Cemohn Sevier** (MA '05) began teaching French this year at Ladue Horton Watkins High School in St. Louis, Mo. ✷ On June 27, 2010, **Amanda Kern** (MA '06) married Vincent Lambert in Nantucket. Living in London, she is pursuing her master's in art history at the Courtauld Institute.

German School

In June Amherst College announced that **Carolyn "Biddy" Martin** (MA '74) had been selected as its 19th president, the first female to serve in that position. Previously she was the chancellor at the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.

Italian School

Shanahan Real Estate Group in Winchester, Mass., recently announced that **Nicole Bonasera Cordeiro** (MA '02) had joined the firm as an agent. She also founded and runs HigherEd College Consulting, helping high school students with the college search and application process. ✷ **Matt Papino** (MA '04) was named the Rhode Island Foreign Language Teacher of the Year in May. He teaches Spanish and Italian at Aldrich Junior High School in Warwick.

Japanese School

Tobias Maxwell ('85) had his third book, *1983: The Unknown Season* (Libero Printemps Books) published in May. ✷ **Soma Mei Sheng Frazier** ('93) sent a note about *Enizagam 2011*, an international literary journal written by and for adults but published by the students at Oakland School for the Arts. She serves as the editor. Check it out at enizagam.org. ✷ **Hebron Simckes-Joffe** ('09) sent word about his latest projects. The film *6Gun*, which was directed by him, was selected to screen at Comic-con International in San Diego, with a question and answer session about the making of the film. Nearly 200,000 fans attended the convention. *Run, Edward, Run!*, written and directed by Hebron, received a Silver Ace Award from the Las Vegas Film Festival in July. It also received Honorable Mention from the L.A. New Wave International Festival. Hebron is in post-production on a third short film, which is half in English and half in Chinese.

Monterey Institute of International Studies

From saving the whales of the Antarctic to studying the salmon of Alaska, **Casson Trenor** (MAIEP '05) has worked to support stewardship of marine resources across the globe. He is the author of *Sustainable Sushi: A Guide to Saving the Oceans One Bite at a Time*, designed for consumers to dine with confidence at sushi bars. He also maintains www.sustainablesushi.net, a popular blog and reference website concentrating on sushi and ocean conservation. He founded the world's first sustainable sushi restaurant, San Francisco's Takaki Sushi and Sake Bar in February 2008; Takaki South opened in 2010, and KI, the world's first sustainability-themed izakaya (traditional Japanese pub/restaurant), opened in May 2011. Casson holds the position of senior markets campaigner with Greenpeace USA, where he spearheads the organization's efforts to hold restaurants and supermarkets accountable for their seafood sustainability practices and to help educate the public about the global fisheries crisis. A frequent commentator on sustainable seafood issues, he has been featured on *CNN* and *NPR*, and in the *New York Times, Boston Globe, Christian Science Monitor, San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, UTNE Reader, Tokyo Weekender,* and *Kochi Shimbun* among others. In October 2009, Casson was awarded "Hero of the Environment" by *Time* magazine. ✷ The International Warehouse Logistics Assoc. installed **Linda C. Hothem** (PS '85), who is CEO of Pacific American Group and a senior adviser to Matson Global Distribution Services Inc., as chairman for 2011–2012. She is the first woman in the organization's 120-year history to hold that position. One of her top priorities as chairman over the coming year will be the promotion and practice of sustainability—helping third-party logistics providers who operate warehouses fulfill their environmental and social responsibilities while at the same time improving their profitability. Linda founded Pacific American Services (PACAM), an Oakland, Calif.-based warehouse logistics provider in 1987 with her late partner and husband, Ronald. Following his death in 1996, she took over his industrial real estate portfolio growing its holdings more than 200 percent. In 2008, after 21 years of operating PACAM, Linda negotiated the sale of the company to Matson Global Distribution Services. In 2009 the San Francisco *Business Times* named her one of the Most Influential Women in Business, and honored her company as one of the 2008 Top 100 Women-Owned Businesses.

Spanish School

Helen Le Roux Marston (MA '64) recently visited Prof. **Manuel Alvarez-Morales** (MA '59) and his son, Manolito, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Manolo is now 90 years old and sharp as a tack mentally, but a bit frail physically. He retired from teaching at the Univ. of Puerto Rico, where his late wife, **YoYo** (MA '66), also taught. Son Manolito also teaches there and has for 30 years. Manolo would welcome hearing from any of his old students. His address is at Urb. College Park !V, 1885 Calle Glasgow, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00921-4820 and his phone no. is 787.765.0647. Helen would welcome letters also at PO Box 5, Tenants Harbor, Maine 04860 or e-mail amarston1@roadrunner.com. Her phone no. is 207.372.8494. ✷ **Clark Zlotchew** (MA '66) writes, "The collection of 17 of my stories in book form, *Once Upon a Decade: Tales of the Fifties*, was one of three finalists in the short-story category in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards. It's also listed in the 2011 Catalog for Book Expo America 2011." ✷ In June **Norma Bailey** (MA '70) was inducted into the Traverse City (Mich.) Central High School Hall of Fame. A professor of middle-level education at Central Michigan Univ., she has also taught middle school and college courses in Michigan and Colorado. ✷ This summer Pres. Obama announced his intention to nominate **Adrienne O'Neal** (MA '77) to the post of Ambassador to the Republic of Cape Verde, Department of State. She is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service.

Lauren Gunderson at the South Coast Rep. Maybe you heard Nick's voice on NPR around Halloween, when he was playing Dr. Seward in *Dracula*. ✳ **Jennifer Hazen Peers** and husband Eric welcomed daughter Allison Marie Peers into the world (and to Boulder, Colo.) on September 15, 2010. Jennifer has been working at Stratus Consulting for over a decade now and still loves environmental consulting. ✳ After 16 years in Toronto, Ontario, **Masina Wright** has moved back to New England. "I'm a naturopathic doctor, working at Akari Medi-Spa in the beautiful Old Port of Portland, Maine. I'm loving living by the sea and settling into a quieter kind of life after a great urban adventure owning a naturopathic wellness clinic in downtown Toronto. I would love to find **Jenny Raybin**, **Jen Jefferson**, **Molly Reeves**, and **Jen Shepherd** again! All my contact information is on www.thewrightdoctor.com. Stay in touch!" ✳ **Spencer Williams** continues to enjoy running his pet toy and bed manufacturing company, West Paw Design, in Bozeman, Mont. His wife, **Kerry** (**Sawatzky**), writes, "This spring he was invited to participate in an APEC summit for small and medium enterprises based in Big Sky, Mont., and had the honor of showcasing his facility as a demonstration of sustainable business practices. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke and U.S. Senator Max Baucus took part in the tour and press conference, and the whole experience was amazing!" Kerry holds down the fort during all this excitement and is raising two incredible young boys, ages 7 and 3. She's putting the skills she learned in Midd's modern dance classes to good use this fall by becoming a certified Dancing For Birth instructor, bringing together two of her passions: creative movement and child development. ✳ **David Zappulla** and partner Emily Zappulla are proud to announce the birth of William Daniel on July 13, 2009, in Baltimore, Md. At two years old, Will continues to bring tremendous joy to his whole family. ✳ In other 1995 news, **Lanie Graf** was a panel member for "The Art of Where We Are: Working with Vogt and Grider in the 21st Century" at the Arkell Museum in Canajoharie, N.Y., in May. She is the associate archivist at the Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pa. ✳ **Shannon Detweiler Nguyen** sent in a photo of Midd friends at a party in Maine. Check it out on page 77. ✳ Please keep your news coming, as we enjoy catching up through the pages of *Middlebury Magazine*. Only four more years until our 20th!

—Class Correspondents: *Emily Aikenhead Hannon (hannon.emily@gmail.com); JP Watson (jpwatson@athensacademy.org).*

96

We asked **Marlisa Simonson** to send us a recap of reunion since we couldn't make it. She writes, "Approximately 40 classmates and their families enjoyed a great weekend back on campus for our 15th reunion. In addition to enjoying all of the College-provided activities, including some great kids' activities, we gathered for a memorial service on Bittner terrace to remember classmates **Debby Edelstein**, **Duke Barisonek**, **Jeff Bittner**, **Kim Krans**, and **Jason Ruiz**. We shared meals and some people stayed in our old freshman dorm, Stewart (whose hallways have a much more modern aesthetic but whose bathrooms still have the green subway tile!). Some beautiful weather during the days made it easy for everyone to explore new campus features as well as visit new and old favorite shops in town. Registered and/or checked-in attendees from our class included: **Kaliope Azzi-Huck**, **Allison Baratta**, **Pete Bevere**, **April Bolton-Smith**, **Josh Bruzgul**, **Natasha Causton**, **Noel Chilton**, **Kevin Creeden**, **Anne Bruce Driscoll**, **Jethro** and **Molly Bschorr Ferguson**, **Humberto Garcia-Sjogrim**, **Bill Gowski**, **Alexis Holtzman**, **Melissa Morrissey Jattne**, **Amon "Moni" Johnson**, **Amy Schwenker Kamosa**, **Samy Khalil**, **Angela Goldman Klingler**, **Mike** and **Debbie Bailey Kreuzer**, **Pamela Selover Lawrence**, **Rob Lawrence**, **Taylor Mahony**, **Cynthia Martinez**, **Kimberly Whitman McGovern**, **Cullen Meade**, **Sarah Merrill**, **Andrew Mitchell**, **Elizabeth "Corie" Pierce**, **Scott Pokrywa**, **Jennifer Sangster Popick**, **Allison Miller Rimland**, **David Shannon**, **Rachel Shapiro**, **Marlisa Simonson**, **Kevin Staples**, **Katherine Hubert Titus**, **Matt Trail**, and **Jennifer Varney**. ✳ We'd like to add our congratulations to Marlisa who was awarded the Gamaliel Painter's Cane Society Award for the "reunion year Cane Society representative who has gone above and beyond." ✳ Great news from **Ashley McMullin Hanser** and husband Albert—they have a lot going on! Not only did they just move to a new house in Weston, Mass., but they also welcomed their third child, Brooke Randolph Hanser, on March 22. She is the adorable little sister to brothers Grant (4) and Hayes (2). ✳ In other baby news, Caralyn and **Chad Stern** are the parents of a happy, healthy baby boy. Calvin Stern arrived on April 13 and joined big brother Austin (2). The Sterns live in Andover, Mass. ✳ J.K. and **Heidi Hirschberg Fagan** welcomed their third child, William Conrad "Connor" McKee Fagan on May 12 in Munich, Germany. Their *Münchner Kindl* joins big brother Griffin (7) and big sister Gracie (5). They were looking forward to a trip to the States to see family on the Cape this summer. ✳ **Dan Rice** and wife Christina also had a little boy. Maxwell "Max" Thomas Rice was born on June 1. Twin older siblings Lila and Charlie (2.5) adore their new brother, and the whole Rice family is enjoying their time in Richmond, Va. ✳ **Christy Thomsen Covalesky** sent the following news: "Joe and I are thrilled to announce the birth of our son, Elliott Maxwell Covalesky, on May 24. Big sister Lydia is doing well, considering she doesn't have all the attention anymore." ✳ **Laura Thomas** writes, "Hi everyone! I just published my first novel, *Shadow Swans*. It's about a young woman who has lived her whole life inside the NYC subway system and a series of government-constructed tunnels connecting all the major cities of the Eastern seaboard. The novel is available in paperback and Kindle on Amazon.com. Also, I've just moved to Chicago and would love to hear from anyone in the area! E-mail me at laurabama@gmail.com." ✳ In other 1996 news, **Karen Ruffle** recently had her book, *Gender, Sainthood, and Everyday Practice in South Asian Shi'ism*, published by the Univ. of North Carolina Press. She is an assistant professor of history of religions and women's and gender studies at the Univ. of Toronto. ✳ Please send news! We love hearing from you!

—Class Correspondents: *Amanda Gordon Fletcher (argfletcher@yahoo.com); Megan Shattuck (meganshattuck@gmail.com).*

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REUNION CLASS

Hassan Sachedina's PhD thesis from Oxford Univ. was awarded the Audrey Richards Prize for the best doctoral thesis in African Studies from any UK university over a two-year period. Hassan is now working for Wildlife Works Carbon in Kenya setting up carbon projects across Africa. ✳ **Matthew Feinberg** writes, "In May I completed my PhD in Spanish at the Univ. of Kentucky when I defended my doctoral dissertation entitled 'Lavapiés, Madrid as Twenty-first Century Urban Spectacle.' This year I'm continuing this research in Madrid with the support of a Fulbright Scholarship. Son Ari (3) has come along as a research assistant." ✳ We have quite a bit of belated baby news to report! **Olivia Hooper Curry** and husband Mike welcomed another bouncing baby boy into their home in June 2009. Ronan Peter Curry was born on June 9 and joined big brothers Liam and Eamonn. ✳ **Lilia Gerberg** and husband Matt McCaffree welcomed daughter Jayna Davan McCaffree into their family on July 11, 2010. ✳ **Jason** and **Renee Camfield Shellhaas** welcomed daughter Elizabeth Vera Shellhaas on September 16, 2010. Elizabeth joined big brother Peter (6) and big sister Natalie (3). Renee and Jason are still in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Renee is working at the Univ. of Michigan as a pediatric neurologist and Jason practices primary care and sports medicine at the student health service. ✳ **Becca Dunning Jones** and husband Brian are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Eowyn Crosby Jones on October 19, 2010. ✳ And, last but not least, **Celena Kingson Knox** and husband Jamie welcomed Felix William Knox on December 17, 2010. Linnea (2) is thrilled to be a big sister! ✳ In other 1997 news, **Amy Wlodarski**, who is an associate professor of music at Dickinson College, received the Distinguished Teaching Award in May, the highest honor given to a faculty member. She teaches music history courses and conducts the Dickinson College choir. ✳ First Republic Bank recently announced that **Linnea McArt** had joined them as managing director of the Century City office in L.A. Previously she was a senior VP at Citi Private Bank in L.A.

—Class Correspondents: *Maggie Bittinger Liljegren (maggie.liljegren@gmail.com); Catherine Mitchell Wieman (cnmitchell99@hotmail.com).*

98

Our thoughts are with the families and friends of dear classmates **Rob Koger** and **Mike Russell**, who passed away in July and September, respectively. We grieve with their loved ones at the loss of two lives that should have enjoyed more time with family, more adventures with friends, more travel around the world, and many, many more years. ✳ Gov. Sam Brownback of Kansas recently appointed **Catherine Veach Moyer** to the Kansas Lottery Commission. She is the director of legal and regulatory affairs at Pioneer Communications in Ulysses, Kan. ✳ **Raoul Pop** and wife Ligia live most of the time in Romania and he has his own website where he writes and posts his photos.

—Class Correspondents: *Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@am.jll.com); Nate Johnson (natejohn98@gmail.com).*

99

Angenie McCleary married Peter Webb on July 31, 2010, in a small ceremony with their families on the Oregon Coast and had a larger wedding celebration on September 11 in the Idaho Mountains near their home in Sun Valley. They celebrated their honeymoon in Iceland. It was a big year for Angenie. In addition to getting married and traveling, she was also reelected Blaine County Commissioner in November. ✳ **Adam Burns** motored his boat *Middle Man* back and forth between San Francisco and L.A. this past summer. There were some debates as to who the captain of the ship was, but Adam was squarely in charge. ✳ In June **Charles Macintosh** and **JP Gowdy** completed an epic nine-day, 800-

mile bike journey in the Canadian Rockies. They started in Jasper, Alberta, Canada, and finished in Helena, Mont. ✳ **Peter Steinberg** finished his first year in practice as a urologist in Portland, Maine. ✳ **Devon Bernier** enjoyed her first Fourth of July fireworks display on Portland's Eastern Promenade and continues to be a fitness instructor by day and restaurateur by night. ✳ **Alex Cranmer** writes, "We're thrilled to announce the birth of our first child, Chloe Nora Cranmer, on April 28, 2009. Acting is still moving along—I was cast in two episodes of the second season of *Boardwalk Empire* on HBO that aired this fall. I also performed with the Potomac Theatre Project (Middlebury College's professional company in residence) this summer!" ✳ In other 1999 news, **Nick Bobrov** joined law firm Eckert Seamans Cherin and Mellott as a government affairs specialist in the Boston office. Previously he worked in the office of former congressman Bill Delahunt '63 and served as the finance committee chairman.

—Class Correspondents: *Melissa Pruessing (mpruessing@yahoo.com); Peter Steinberg (captfun99@gmail.com).*

00

Michaela Betty and Rob Kelly are happy to announce their marriage on September 26, 2009, at Gooseberry Beach, Newport, R.I. In attendance were **Lindsay Simpson Spinney**, **Jim** and **Jessica Howe Thomson**, **Hillary Guttman Woodbury**, **Megan Harris Batchelder**, **Kaitlin Roan Clark**, and **Kate Stevens Getchell**. The Kellys moved their life across the country after Michaela was promoted to manager, customer operations at ID Analytics in San Diego in January 2010. They haven't regretted their decision, given the snow dump in Rhode Island last winter! They spend as much time as possible hiking, mountain biking, and checking out Southern California. Paddle boarding is next! ✳ **Anthony D'Avella** married Sandi O'Connell in October 2010 in Vergennes, Vt. She is an account executive with Diane von Furstenberg and he designs business strategies and is involved in product service development in the NYC office of IDEO. ✳ Oppenheimer and Co. recently promoted **David Ferreiro**, who covers life science tools and diagnostics, to senior analyst in the equity research dept. ✳ **David Philipps** is one of five journalists who was chosen as a 2011–2012 Ted Scripps Fellow in Environmental Journalism at the Univ. of Colorado in Boulder. The nine-month program offers experienced journalists an opportunity to deepen their understanding of environmental issues and policy through coursework, seminars, independent projects, and field trips in the region. David is an investigative reporter and feature writer at the *Colorado Springs Gazette.* ✳ **Nils Hegstad** was recently named manager, consultant relations, at Manulife Asset Management in Boston. Previously he was part of the product management and consultant relations teams at Columbia Management.

—Class Correspondents: *David Babington (davidbabington@gmail.com); Lindsay Simpson (simpsonlindsay@yahoo.com).*

01

The Class of 2001 turned out in incredible numbers for our 10-year reunion. A total of 175 of us—25 percent of the class, the highest percentage to return for a 10th since at least 2006—enjoyed a weekend in Vermont catching up with old friends, exploring new buildings on campus, and reliving our glory days. That includes '01 Midd Kids from just up the road in Vermont to ones from as far away as Singapore and India. Not to mention the spouses, significant others, and kids who became de facto classmates, McCullough aficionados, and Panther fans for the weekend. We'll see everyone in five years, but hopefully sooner! ✳ Josh Broder '02 recently got married in Pownal, Maine, to Eliza Ginn and was joined by **Rob Verger**, Jeff Phillippe '02, **Bob Goelet**, **Lauren Wright**, **Danny O'Brien**, Jamien Richardson '00, Gretchen Stuppy Carlson '02, Kate Robinson '02, Greg Connolly '02, **Megan Hamilton Stelzer**, and **Ray Coffey**. ✳ Megan and **Zach Bourque** welcomed the arrival of second daughter Annette, who was born on May 21. ✳ **Becky Ruby Swansburg** gave birth to twins on April 12—Robert Allen and Molly Elizabeth. The whole family is doing great! ✳ **BJ Otten** reports, "**Kristin** (**Behr**), big brother Bear, and I missed everyone at reunion while we awaited the arrival of our baby girl, River Josie Otten, born on June 7. We left the Lakes Region of New Hampshire in July for our new home in Maine where I am delving into the world of renewable energy." ✳ **James Ong** and **Emily Sharkey** are happy to announce the birth of son Miles on April 22. ✳ **Keegan Uhl** writes, "Sadly I missed reunion. But a short film of mine played at the Sundance film festival this past January, and I'm keeping busy directing commercials, writing a TV series, and developing a couple of feature film ideas." Keegan provided an update on two other classmates: **Daniel Graham** has moved to Vienna and is expecting a child and **Pete Morgan** lives in Denver with his fiancée. ✳ On February 6, **Melissa Mahoney Wirth** and husband Christopher had their second child, Emily, joining big brother Zachary (2.5). Melissa is no longer working full time as the assistant director of admissions at the Rye Country Day School, but she continues to coach soccer and lacrosse at the school. ✳ **Paul Shull** and family met up with Matt Wilson '03 and family on the Washington Mall for a picnic. Paul is working for Manitowoc Corp. in aftermarket sales and Matt is homesteading in western Massachusetts with family in tow.

—Class Correspondents: *Leslie Fox Arnould (lesliearnould@gmail.com); Michael Hartt (hartt@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

02 REUNION CLASS

In April, **Jack Thurston** joined New England Cable News as the network's Vermont correspondent. He worked for nine years at Vermont's CBS affiliate, where he earned several honors for his reporting, including a prestigious Edward R. Murrow award in 2011 for his continuing coverage of a kidnapping and murder in rural northeastern Vermont. His stories air weeknights on NECN, so tune in, New Englanders! You can drop Jack a note (or news tip) at jthurston@necn.com. ✳ **Averell** and **Natasha Kelly Withers** welcomed their first child, Bronwyn Adrianna Withers, on May 24. Natasha works at One Medical Group and she writes that her office is expanding quickly as its concept of specializing in delivering quality primary care is catching on in New York. One Medical Group offers on-time appointments, e-mail access to your provider, longer more personalized appointments, and so much more! Natasha says, "I really enjoy working there and feel that I can provide better care to my patients. If there are any alumni out there looking for a good quality primary doctor they can check out our website." ✳ **Ben Weber** has sent word that he has finally grown a few chest hairs—more than he can count on two hands. We are very excited for Mr. Weber. ✳ **Katharine Wolf** spent the summer in Singapore before she returned to Harvard's Kennedy School for her second year. ✳ After receiving her MBA from Northwestern (Kellogg), **Sandra Carlson** now lives in Dubai, UAE. She and her husband were married in June on Daufuskie Island, S.C. She works in real estate. ✳ **Alison Connolly** received an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth on June 12. She graduated "With Distinction," was named a Tuck Scholar, and received the Herman Feldman Memorial Prize and the Julia Stell Award. Ali spent the summer in Marblehead, Mass., before moving to Denver, Colo., where she's working for Allonhill. ✳ **Yuri Lawrence** writes, "I have finished a small animal rotating internship at N.C. State Univ. Veterinary Health Complex and have moved to Corvallis, Ore., for a combined small animal internal medicine residency and PhD program at Oregon State Univ. Would love to meet up with any alumni in the area." ✳ After four years of classroom and clinical study at Northwestern Health Science Univ. and a year in a joint practice, **Andrea Hersh Kannas** has opened the Chiropractic Wellness Studio in Woodstock, Vt. ✳ **Elizabeth Rudnick** has published a young adult novel called *Tweet Heart: {a novel in e-mails, blogs and tweets}*. After Hyperion came out with the book in 2010, they sent her on a seven-city East Coast book tour, ending in D.C. She has left her job at Disney Press in NYC and lives now in Chatham, Mass., on Cape Cod. She still does some freelance work for Disney that includes writing Spider-Man stories for Marvel comics.

—Class Correspondents: *Anne Alfano (anne.alfano@gmail.com); Stephen Messinger (s.messing@gmail.com).*

03

Katie Ziemba completed her master's in reading, writing, and literacy at UPenn and was excited to return to Vermont, where she teaches fourth graders at Champlain Elementary School in Burlington. ✳ Having happily left the practice of law a year ago (and not looked back since), **Mags Aleks** became a yoga teacher, teaching at random studios throughout Chicago, and she completed the first year of her master's degree in counseling psychology at Northwestern. She awaits moving home to the West Coast next summer and integrating yoga into her mental health therapy practice. This summer she went roadtripping with **Reid Hamel** from L.A. to Vancouver and stopped to see several friends from Midd, including **Heather Rankie** and **Meagan Dodge**, along the way. ✳ **Damian Washington** and **Angela Boulart** sent an update. Damian has been popping up in CollegeHumor videos while working at the Posse Foundation and living in NYC with Angela. Angela's keeping the torch alive for art history majors working at The Frick Collection. She recently had a drink with **Jason Vrooman**, who is living in Paris and researching his dissertation. Angela and Damian keep up with a wide range of Midd Kids, including audio engineer **Tim Sturges**, Internet film visionary **Ryan Bilsborrow-Koo**, gentleman and explorer **Blake Whitman**, and fancy-pants lawyer **Nancy Sul Mayne**. Also, everyone has babies now. **Lollinez Guadalupe-Perez** had a baby; **Paula Yepes** had a baby; **Grace Hardy Natale** had a baby; **Kadion Phillips** has a tribe of three babies; both **Oksana Romina** and **Jason Speigler** had babies a little while ago. There are just so many '03 babies running around. Good thing they all know **Meagan Dodge** is a recently minted pediatric resident in Seattle. ✳ **Kevin** and **Heather Tory Dougherty** finished their internal medicine and pediatrics residencies and were excited to be moving back to Boston for fellowships.

class

Heather is at Children's Hospital and Kevin at Tufts Medical Center. They are also very excited about the arrival of their new nephew! Matt '02 and **Carrie MacDonald Dougherty** welcomed Ryan Christopher on April 29. ✳ Peter '02 and **Joanna Murphy Mancini** are pleased to announce the arrival of twins John Paul and Philip Leonard on June 10, 2010. ✳ In wedding news, **Sonali Desai** and **Seth Zoracki** were married on July 17, 2010, at Mead Chapel in Middlebury. ✳ Also on July 17, 2010, friends and family gathered for the wedding of **Michael Stahler** and Jennifer Wlodarski. Following a wedding mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Belfast, Maine, a sunset reception was held at the Point Lookout Resort overlooking Penobscot Bay. The newlyweds honeymooned in Quebec City and are in the process of relocating to Salt Lake City, Utah, where Jennifer is beginning her residency at the Univ. of Utah Hospital. ✳ **Caroline Roy** recently joined Prime Mortgage Lending as the head of their branch in Bozeman, Mont.

—Class Correspondent: *Meagan Dodge (mdodge@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

04

Sarah Groff had an exciting summer. In June in Kitzbühel, Austria, she became the first American woman to ever reach the podium in an ITU World Championship Series race when she took the bronze medal. She was chosen as *USA Today*'s Olympic Athlete of the week on June 20. Then at a Series race in London, she was the second American finisher (seventh overall) and earned a spot on the 2012 U.S. Olympic Triathlon Team. She is sixth in the World Championship Series rankings. Congratulations! ✳ In other Olympic news, **Colin Rodgers** was named the head coach of the cross-country Olympic Development Team by the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation. He directs daily training efforts, plans and conducts training camps, coordinates and leads all competition projects, and oversees equipment and technical services. One member of the men's squad is Simi Hamilton '09.

—Class Correspondents: *Julia Herwood Breedon (julia.breedon@gmail.com); Athenia (Tina) Fischer (princess1328@yahoo.com).*

05

Polly Lynn has moved back to Vermont to become the editor and publisher of the *Mountain Times* of Killington. She has been living in Denver, Colo., for the past several years working for Education First, an international company that organizes study abroad programs for high schools and colleges throughout the world, as well as being a weekend ski instructor at Vail Ski Resort.

—Class Correspondents: *Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com); Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).*

06

JS Woodward and **Jess Van Wagenen** report: June was marked by our first (of many!) Middlebury reunions. We had a great showing—250 of us made it back to Vermont. Our only complaints were that it was too brief and we couldn't get all 673 of us together in one place again. Coffrin held up well despite some all-nighters, lots of mattresses dragged around, and no one getting very much sleep. Thanks to everyone who made it back! (Take note now: our 10th reunion will be the first weekend in June 2016!) ✳ Also, thanks to everyone who helped us win the Parton Family Award for a reunion class other than the 25th or 50th with the greatest increase in participation (51 percent!). ✳ **Retta Leaphart** missed out on our June celebrations because she was premiering her original puppet production called *Far From the Tree* at Labapalooza in Brooklyn, N.Y. If you happened to miss the show, fear not! You can still see Retta work her magic with puppets at the Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre in Central Park. ✳ **Deb Tennen** reports that she will be returning to Middlebury once again in J-term to teach a course entitled *Orlando Furioso* and the Renaissance Epic. She also notes that she's just started writing for shmoop.com, a new online education resource. Someone's a smarty-pants. ✳ **Annie Stamell** has been busy as a media mover and shaker. She's a founding contributor to HelloGiggles.com, a new website conceived by Zooey Deschanel, Sophia Rossi, and Molly McAleer that highlights female funny-makers. She's also recently moved on from her gig in the scripted dept. at Fox Television Studios to become the writers' PA for *The Finder*, a new Fox series (a rad spin-off of *Bones*) that will go up midseason next year. Set your DVRs now. ✳ In other job news: **Scott Kleiman** has left his position at Ceres, a nonprofit that leads coalitions of investors, environmental organizations, and other public interest groups working with companies to address sustainability challenges such as global climate change and water scarcity. Scott is attending Duke University's Fuqua School of Business in Durham, N.C., where he hopes to specialize in social innovation, growth capital, and philanthropy. He was really looking forward to math camp. ✳ New York has seen a lot of departures recently. **Allie Green** has left the Big Apple after five years in the city, moving to Chicago for a position in marketing. **Pete Wolkowski** left his marketing position at Edelman to start business school at Penn State Univ. this fall. **Rachel Durfee** recently moved from NYC to San Francisco to work in the communications department at Google. This summer she and fellow '06er, **Jamie Wong**, trained for the Big Kahuna half-Ironman triathlon with Team in Training. NYC (a.k.a. class correspondent Jess) misses all three dearly! ✳ **Katie Clagett** continues her job at EF as a homestay coordinator, helping students come from abroad and live in Boston with host families. ✳ After spending the last year leading a political messaging and communications project in Washington, D.C., **Elise Burditt** started an MBA program this fall at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. ✳ **Grace Kronenberg** is the acquisitions guru for One Percent for the Planet, where she works with Terry Kellogg '94 and, until recently, with **Jake Whitcomb**. She ran the Key Bank Vermont City Marathon Half Relay in May with excellent results, although she says she couldn't have kept up with **Dave Coriell** and **Ben Bruno**, who ran the whole marathon. Congrats to all three of you! After boss Gov. Jim Douglas '72 stepped down in January, Dave left his position as director of civil and military affairs and communications and now works for Green Mountain Power, managing their communication efforts. ✳ **Robin Cornuelle** continues work as a media planner at Wieden+Kennedy in Portland, Ore. ✳ **Kelly Boyle** earned a master's in education and is pursuing a PhD in school psychology at Univ. of Calif., Berkeley. She is really excited to be doing her clinical internship at a therapeutic preschool in the Bay Area. ✳ **Carolyn Barnwell** concluded her time at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Maine last winter, migrated down to Louisville, Ky., for a spell, and is en route to a new life in Washington, D.C., where she'll continue to pursue multimedia projects focusing on education and social entrepreneurship. ✳ This past spring, **Ashley Calkins** completed her MS in higher education and student affairs at Indiana Univ. Following that, she returned to Middlebury to be the College's new community engagement coordinator in the Center for Education in Action. (Some people just can't get enough of this place.) ✳ Congrats are in order to '06ers who recently tied the knot! Congrats to **Dave Barker** and Kylie Taylor '07, who wed in July in Vermont. Lots of Midd Kids were in attendance, including best man **Jake Kuipers** and groomsmen **Baker Lyon** and **Dan Berkman**. Congrats also to **Jackie Edwards**, who married John Kircher in California in May. ✳ This issue is the first since we've graduated without **Tris Arscott** sitting in the class correspondent's chair. He claims he's just been too busy since graduating from UVM's College of Medicine and going on to be a Howard Hughes Fellow in the HHMI-NIH Research Scholars Program in Bethesda, Md., where he's looking to cure cancer. Perhaps (just this once) we'll give him a pass. Thanks for all of your hard work, Tris! ✳ **Alex Casnocha** and **Jack Donaldson** are joining Jess as class correspondents. Look forward to exciting news coming from them in future issues!

—Class Correspondents: *Alex Casnocha (alexander.casnocha@gmail.com); Jack Donaldson (jack.c.donaldson@gmail.com); Jess Van Wagenen (jvanwagenen@gmail.com).*

07

REUNION CLASS

Time is flying by and our five-year reunion is right around the corner. Mr. Up's and Two Brothers are waiting for your money! ✳ **Brodie MacDearmid** has continued to grow his flock and spends his time in Maine working the fields and enjoying the outdoors. ✳ In wedding news **Lindsey Jones** and **Steve Hauschka** tied the knot in Minneapolis in June with a strong Middlebury contingent in attendance. ✳ **Natalie Shettle** and Aaron Herter '06 were married in Maryland with their Middlebury friends in attendance. ✳ Mr. (**Michael**) **Conn** continues to steal the show as he tries new endeavors. ✳ **Brett Swenson** moved to Hong Kong and then to San Francisco over the last year and now finds herself back in NYC. ✳ **Alex Buggy** is in San Diego where he has enlisted in the Navy and he continues to work towards pursuing his goal of becoming an elite member of the armed forces. ✳ **Liz Parker** lives in the San Francisco area, working in the literary world, and sees **Laura Giebink**, who recently relocated to work for Google. ✳ On the East Coast, **Sam Temes** is still in NYC, working for Google as well, and continues to hang out with his Middlebury friends. ✳ **Scott Secor** and **Stefan Hrdina** are enjoying their time in New York and the fun and games the area has to offer. ✳ **Jocko DeCarolis** has changed his profession and is now a firefighter in Rome, N.Y. ✳ Matt Angoff '06 is looking to set a record for the number of five-year reunions that can be attended before Middlebury catches on. ✳ **Chad Bellmare** is lowering his handicap as he puts in the time on the links trying to get back onto the competitive golf circuit. ✳ **Amy Witherspoon** is in the D.C. area and sees **Maxine Warren** when she finds free time from teaching. Maxine headed to Atlanta for medical school this year. ✳ **Scott Coriell** is also in the D.C. area and sees **Pete Sung** from time to time. ✳ **Hannah Baker** continues to pursue the hospitality sector in the Hamptons. ✳ **Lindsay Brush** has returned from Wyoming to settle down in her home state of Vermont. ✳ **Isabel Yordan** is busy working on the hair and spending some quality time with **Lisie Mehlman**, who is finishing her studies at UPenn. ✳ **Kim Walker** is working on her master's degree in Georgetown University's Security

Studies Program. ✳ See you on campus in June!
—Class Correspondents: *Andrew Everett (andrewceverett@gmail.com); Brett Swenson (brettf.swenson@gmail.com).*

08 Here's an update on 2008 grads near and far: **Ryan Tauriainen** was recently promoted to principal through New Leaders for New Schools located in Washington, D.C. At 25 years old, Ryan will be one of the youngest principals in the U.S. ✳ After teaching pre-kindergarten for two years, Colorado corps member **Lani Young** joined the Teach for America Colorado staff in 2010. She supports the newest teachers (including Emily Gray '11!) in their transition to the classroom. ✳ **Jen Foth** is pursuing her master's in public health at Boston Univ. She spent a couple of months as a Summer Fellow at the BU Frederick S. Pardee Center, conducting research on the role of the private sector in disaster risk reduction. ✳ **Mimi Schatz** graduated from Boston Univ. with an M.Ed. in counseling and sport psychology and moved to Denver at the end of July. ✳ After finishing the first year of her MPA in development practice at Columbia Univ., **Laura Budzyna** spent the summer in Tanzania as an intern with the Millennium Villages Project, helping to develop a student-led hygiene campaign in the primary schools. She returned to New York in September to finish her master's. ✳ After two and a half years of Beijing adventures and professional exploration, **Tyler Cotton** is shifting back to America, where he plans to continue localizing Chinese video games into English for new markets. He will spend some time at home in Memphis, rebooting and readjusting while developing his next (probably American) adventure. He will dearly miss his Middlebury comrades in Beijing, but hopes to meet and reconnect with other Midd Kids at his next destination. ✳ **Becca Richardson**, **AnnMarie Wesolowski**, and **Talia Lincoln** visited **Eli Menaker** in Anchorage, Alaska, for a week. The group enjoyed their reunion in the land of the midnight sun. ✳ **Dean Atyia** is attending the Univ. of Michigan Law School and will graduate in 2013. ✳ **Laura Wedel** and Justin Butler celebrated their wedding on June 24 in Düsseldorf, Germany, in the company of fellow Midd grads **Monica Balan**, **Ed Donaldson**, and bridesmaid **Carolina Caeiro**. The newlyweds now live in Hanover, N.H. ✳ **Jack Lysohir** has moved from NYC to Hong Kong where he lives with **Matt Doyle** and **Scott Greene**. ✳ As always, send your updates at any time to us!
—Class Correspondents: *Michelle Cady (michelle.elizabeth.cady@gmail.com); Laura Lee (laurawhitneylee@gmail.com).*

09 An Army National Guard 2nd Lt., **Alex Ryng** recently graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., and also from officer candidate school at Fort Benning, Ga. ✳ **Mike Stone** continues his successful career as a midfielder with the Boston Cannons of Major League Lacrosse. He's had eight career goals with them. He is also the assistant varsity lacrosse coach at Wellesley (Mass.) High School. ✳ **Conrad Olson** was recently named an assistant tennis coach at Washington College in Chestertown, Md. Previously he was the director of tournament training at Solaris Sport and Racquet Club in Hawthorne, N.Y. ✳ **Chandler Koglmeier** has stepped down as class correspondent and **Billie Borden** has come on board. Thanks to Chandler for all his hard work as a correspondent over the past few years!
—Class Correspondents: *Billie Borden (billie.borden@gmail.com); Eva Nixon (evanixon@gmail.com).*

10 Once again, Class of 2010 members are being successful at life. ✳ **Shane Mandes**, **Baird Kellogg**, and **Aaron Becker** are working in Manhattan for their production company, Windward Entertainment. They are currently shooting the film *Syrup* starring Amber Heard, Kellan Lutz, Shiloh Fernandez, and Brittany Snow. That's right, Emmet Cullen from the Twilight movie series knows Midd Kids—that's a pretty sweet deal. ✳ Also on the "Successful at Life" list are **Brian Swartz**, **Matt Lowes**, and **Matt Groh**. These three former residents of Shannon Street 2010 have been reunited since starting work at Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), which is an NGO that conducts rigorous impact evaluations of development projects around the world. Brian has spent the last 12 months managing the field work for an evaluation of a novel rainwater storage device in western Uganda, and he is transitioning to a new role of supervising other NGOs to improve their monitoring and evaluation plans. Matt L. began his work in Yemen but moved to Uganda in April when things started to deteriorate in Yemen, and Brian and Matt are roommates once again! Matt G. was working for IPA in Cairo until the revolution sprung up there and has since been moved to the research division of the World Bank in D.C. ✳ **Hannah Burnett** has returned from her work with Mothers to Mothers in South Africa, after completing her internship with Princeton-in-Africa. She is now part of a Global Health Corps fellowship and will be working as the advocacy and development coordinator at Tiyatien Health in Boston. ✳ **Elianna Kan** joined Picador, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing, as a publicity assistant in June. Before that, she interned at the *Paris Review.* ✳ **Anthony Adragna** is an editorial assistant at *Seattle Business* magazine and regularly contributes to Foodista.com. He also blogs for Spartanrace.com and has his own personal blog site at Adragna.org. ✳ **Daniel Sheron** recently came out with a CD called *Balto: October's Road.* He wrote the 10 songs while living and working in Moscow and traveling in Siberia. ✳ This update is just a sampling of all of the fabulous work our classmates are doing, but we can only write about people who let us know what you're up to! So, please e-mail **Johnny Williams** and **Alice Ford** with updates about your life. Thank you!
—Class Correspondents: *Alice Ford (alicemarieford@gmail.com); Johnny Williams (jonathan.philip.williams@gmail.com).*

11 A few days after graduation, **Cloe Shasha** began a trip with Middlebury friends that lasted several weeks. Now she's working for the TED Conference, managing and coordinating TEDxYouthDay events on a global scale. She's based out of NYC and is looking forward to seeing other Middlebury friends in the area. ✳ A lot of folks are in NYC: **Jonathan Kay** works as a litigation legal assistant for Sullivan & Cromwell, specializing in large, complex civil litigation. ✳ **Danielle Kruse** works as a clinical research assistant at Mount Sinai Medical Center. ✳ **Melida Maldonado** is a community development intern at the Bronx Defenders in the Bronx. ✳ **Amy Rapp** works as a research assistant at Columbia Univ./NYSPI in the division of child and adolescent psychiatry. ✳ Also at Columbia/NYSPI, **Morgan Aye** is working as a research assistant in the brain-imaging laboratory. ✳ **Sofia Zinger** works as the departmental assistant of MTV Docs and has been working with development on new shows, hiring interns, and helping manage her department. ✳ **Liana Fong** is teaching first graders at Trevor Day School, as well as attending Bank Street for her master's in education. ✳ **Chris Marshall** works as an associate/analyst at the NYC-based private equity firm, Middlebury Securities. ✳ **Afsana Líza** is coordinating projects in all East Asian and South Asian languages for a global translation and business services company headquartered in NYC. ✳ **John Patrick Allen** works for a NYC government agency as an Urban Fellow. ✳ **Anna Zauner** works as a sales associate at ThingMagic, a small tech company in Cambridge, Mass. ✳ **Rodrigo Seira** works as a paralegal at Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton, in the corporate Latin America group. ✳ **Willy McKay** is trying to be an actor. He says, "Help, I can't find an apartment!" ✳ **Darren Small** works in financial sales and analytics at Bloomberg NYC. ✳ In other parts of the Northeast, **Amy Saekow** works as a research associate at the asset management firm, Teton Advisors, in Rye, N.Y. ✳ **Cathy Ahearn** spent the summer in NYC and moved to Boston in the fall where she is pursuing her PhD in editorial studies at the Editorial Institute at BU for the next three years. ✳ **Elise Cohen** works as a technical associate for the Univ. of Rochester's Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities. ✳ **Rachael Jennings** is student teaching 12th grade English at Middlebury Union High School this fall. In the summer of 2012, she will begin her master's program at UPenn Graduate School of Education. ✳ **Maria Perille** works as a professional-services emerging leaders associate for the Nielsen Company in Wilton, Conn. ✳ **Maddie Niemi** is working as a paralegal for the law firm of Gravel and Shea in Burlington, Vt. ✳ In Cambridge, Mass., **Quincy Liao** works as a research analyst at the Brattle Group. ✳ **Kalie Mix** is doing genetics research at New England Biolabs in Ipswich, Mass. ✳ **Carl Culicchia** works as an associate at a Boston-based private equity firm called Symmetric Capital. ✳ **Gregg Miller** is working as a management consultant in Boston at Bain & Co. ✳ **Alyssa Ha** works in Boston for a nonprofit called Boston Partners in Education. Her position is placement coordinator, and she places volunteers into classrooms of the Boston public schools. ✳ **Laura Williams** pursued a TESOL/TEFL certificate in Santiago, Chile, in the summer. This fall, she is student teaching eighth grade English at Middlebury Union Middle School. ✳ **Stephanie Halgren** works as a project analyst at Kantar Retail in Wilton, Conn. ✳ In Boston, **Kirsten Lundquist** works as a research assistant doing cancer research at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. ✳ **Kristin Haas** works as a stabilization case manager at the Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership. ✳ **Topher Hunt** is working as a junior analyst at Developmental Testing Service, a developmental psychology research company in Northampton, Mass., and biking to work. ✳ **Jenny Lindsey** is working as a research assistant studying infertility therapies at the Brigham and Women's Hospital ob/gyn department in Boston. ✳ **Noah Silverstein** works as a clinical research assistant at the Brain Genomics Lab at Massachusetts General Hospital and will be applying to MD/PhD programs next year. ✳ **Gabrielle Friedman** is an intern at the intake and resource clinic of the International Institute of New England in Boston. Next year, she'll be a member of AVODAH Chicago and AmeriCorps in the role of community advocate at Apna Ghar, Inc. ✳ **Emily Culp** returned to Middlebury for this fall to com-

Middlebury friends joined Katie Chambers '08 and Steve Papendick for their wedding on August 21, 2010, in Stowe, Vt. In attendance were (all '08 unless noted) Beth Butler '07, Jess Fox '07, Heather Harken, Sara Cowie, Kelsey Eichhorn, the newlyweds, Kristin Fraser, Liza Murray, Pendery Haines, Emily Dawson, Frankie Powell '06, (second row) Emily Molitor, Donnie Stuart, Andrea and Peter Solomon (former swim coach), Ted Parker, Whitney Thomas '07, Jen Henderson, Tim Cavanaugh, Eric Lonstein, Ashwin Gargeya, Ted Iobst, Neil D'Astolfo, Bil Davison, Nick Palmeri '09, and Maggie Higgins.

At Hamilton Hill in Salem, Mass., Thaya Brook '99 married Brian Knight on June 12, 2010. Middlebury friends from the Class of 2000 who attended the ceremony included Kirk German, Jessi Burgess, Julie Culver, Anna Benvenuto, the newlyweds, Angela Smith-Dieng, and Molly Fitzgibbon.

On August 14, 2010, Zach Rossetti '95 and Laura D'Amato were married at the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in Cambridge, Mass. Joining them were Kate Romm, Jordan Romm '95, the newlyweds, Brad Martin '95, and Laura Martin.

Aliza Watters '04 celebrated her wedding to Tarun Chhabra on August 14, 2010, in Oxford, England. Friends who were there to celebrate included Rebecca Martin '05, the bride, Cassidy Freeman '04, Carolyn Kormann '04, and Mari Overbeck '04.

Molly Holmberg '01 married Eric Brown (Harvard '03) on August 14, 2010, in Nathrop, Colo. Midd friends who joined them in celebration included (all '01 unless noted) Scott McLeod with Desmond, Sara Cogan with Chase Gurtman, the newlyweds, Geordie Raisig McLeod, (second row) Kathy Batty, Dave Gurtman, Serena Peck, Vinita Goswami, Sashi Weiss, Christina Cinelli '02, Laura Marlow Latka with Gray, Jim Wilkerson, Caroline Bodkin, Ben Jervey, Melissa Barker '98, Brooke Beatt '10, Susie Strife Leach '02, Scott Leach '00, and Molly Witters.

The marriage of Sarah Luehrman '08 and Tristan Axelrod '08 took place in Tenants Harbor, Maine, on August 28, 2010. Many friends joined them for the celebration: Chris Lizotte '06, Eli Menaker '08, the newlyweds, Allison Corke '08, (second row) Nate Randall '08, Derek Long '08, Greg Fulchino '08, Kelsey Nykiel-Bub '08, Ellen Nagami '08, Gabby Jean, Rebecca Richardson '08, Talia Lincoln '08, Greg Judson '08, AnnMarie Wesolowski '08, (third row) Benji Thurber '08, Luke Yoquinto '08, Alec Weltzien '08, Douglas McRae '08, Daniel Honberg '08, Adam Lovell '08, and Brian Sommers '08. Missing from photo: Molley Kaiyoorawongs '09.

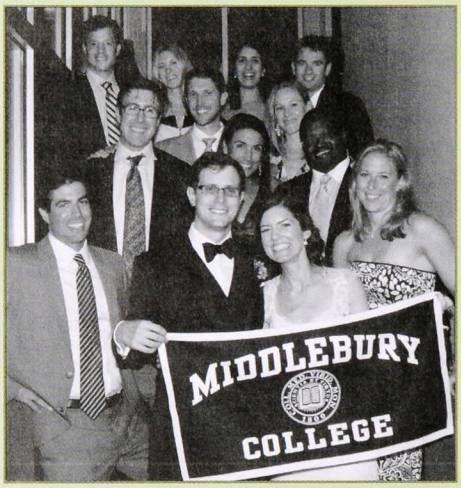
On August 28, 2010, Katherine Lynch '97 married Stephen O'Grady (Williams '97) in Christmas Cove, Maine. A small but mighty group of Midd Kids helped them celebrate: (all '97 unless noted) Rian Alfiero, Nathan Sanborn (Midd spouse), Heather Thompson Sanborn, the newlyweds, Phoebe Chase '00, and Loralie Rackleff Spooner '95. Missing from photo: Christopher Farrell '98 and Tai Ayers.

Christopher Morse '05 was married to Kara Forsyth on September 11, 2010. The ceremony and reception were at the John James Audubon Center in Audubon, Pa. Middlebury friends who celebrated with the couple included (all '05 unless noted) Sara Lowes '07, Dave Wright, the newlyweds, Mayo Fujii, (second row) James Black '04, Andy Peters '03, Tim Connolly '04, Colin Kikuchi, Asher Burns-Burg, Hillary Waite Condit, Brendan Condit, Minna Brown '07, and Charlie Bettigole.

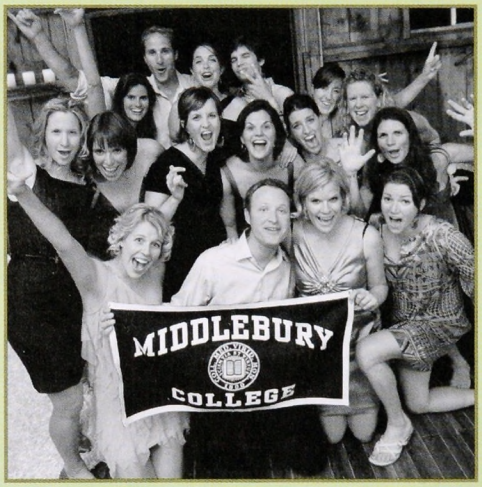
M. Allison "Mak" Keltner '97 married Matthew Musick on September 25, 2010, at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Memphis, Tenn. Middlebury friends celebrating at the Chickasaw Country Club included Jenna Mason-Plunkett Strully '97, Zak Pritchard '01, the newlyweds, (second row) Shimrit Paley '06, Sangwha Hong '97, and Dylan Boyd '96.

Many Midd friends gathered in Osterville, Mass., on August 28, 2010, for the wedding of Jordan MacClary '05 and Ben Tobey '04. Celebrating at the Wianno Club were Andrew Helming '04, Daisuke Yasutake '04, Damien Chaviano '04, Eric Smith '04, Tom O'Connor '04, Chris Cotter '05, Eric Krieger '04, Mike Murphy '04, (second row) Lauryn Nicasio Soden '05, Brittany Cronin '05, Kate Pentkowski '03, Ashley Hall '05, the newlyweds, Beth Seeley Dietz '05, Caitlin McCormick '05, Schuyler Winstead '06, Maggie Smith '04, (third row) Dave Leach '05, Andrew Armstrong '04, Hallie Nicoll '05, Dave Nikiel '04, Dave Coratti '04, Charles Howe '04, Siobhan Redmond Murphy '06, Laura Giebink '07, Andrew Giordano '04, Mike Saraceni '04, Amanda Green Helming '03, Courtney Campbell Kennedy '04, (fourth row) John West '04, Tom Scott '05, Matt Dunn '02, Tim Collard '04, Chris Matthiesen '04, Greg Bastis '04, Dan Skoglund '05, Elizabeth Renehan '06, Erick Dalton '04, JD Schaub '04, Mike Kennedy '04, and John Dawson '04. Missing from photo: Conor Soden '03, Karin Ericson '04, Mike Murray '05, and Jack Kennedy '02.

In Greensboro, Vt., Lauryn Nicasio '05 married Conor Soden '03 on September 18, 2010. Midd friends and family helped the couple celebrate: Ken Chase '77, Jennifer Hunt Nicasio '78, Kristen Nicasio '09, Luciano Nicasio '78, the newlyweds, Brittany Cronin '05, Michael Murray '05, (second row) Troy Haynie '89, Mayra Nicasio Woo-Makepeace '73, Greg Birsky '79, Karen Jackson Birsky '80, Ashley Hall '05, Beth Seeley Dietz '05, Alexis Osterman Emich '05, Kelly Feeney '04, Jordan MacClary Tobey '05, Abigail Lamb '04, Anna Conrad Allen '02, Caitlin McCormick '05, (third row) Denver Smith '03, Jake Armstrong '04, Billy Shufelt '05, Graham Taylor '03, Alison Poppe Rose '03, Fred Emich '04, Patrick Rose '03, Rachel Joynes '05, Ted Flanagan '04, Ben Tobey '04, Tom Scott '05, Greg Berberian '03, Michael Ellis '03, David Leach '05, Michael Sipowicz '03, Billy Lazzaro '03, Wills Allen '03, and Charlie Leonard '03. Missing from photo: Peter Soden '00, John Hunt '79, Julie Hunt '81, Jim '54 and Cynthia Holt Hunt '56.

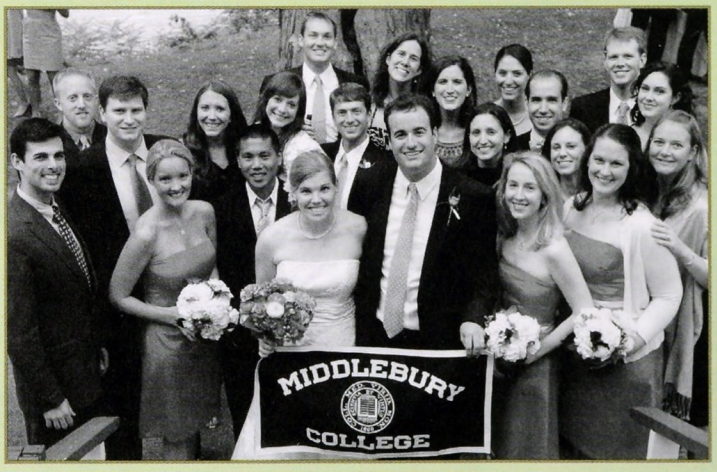


Alison Fisher and Adam Dreiblatt '99 were married on September 11, 2010, in Chicago with many Midd friends in attendance: (all '99 unless noted) David DeVito, the newlyweds, Elissa Burnell '01, (second row) David Gwinn, Jesse Koenig, Elizabeth Xanthopoulos Peck, Katharine Fiske Lord '00, Ron Allen, (third row) Ted Ogden, Valentina Aulisi, Julia Topalian '00, and Peter Barber '01.



Fantastic Middlebury friends gathered to celebrate the marriage of Helen Gemmill '00 and Dan Yechout at Crooked Willow Farm in Larkspur, Colo., on September 11, 2010. Helen and Dan eloped in London in June of 2010 and hosted their wedding reception in Colorado three months later: Katharine Decker '03, the newlyweds, Kath Keen '97, (second row) Meagan Londy '99, Kate Newick '04, Maria Banman Barrell '00, Marisa Budwick '00, Noelle Kvasnosky '00, Lauren Rachal '00, (third row) Elizabeth Lokey Aldrich '00 and husband Ryan Aldrich, Emily Voorhees '99, David Lis '00, Lyndsey Erickson Lis '00, and Emily Newick '01. Missing from photo: Melissa Barker '98 and Margaret Symonds Hancock '00.

On September 25, 2010, Abbie Vacanti '02 and Julian Kesner (Dartmouth '00) were married at the Equinox in Manchester, Vt. Friends from the Class of 2002 joined them in celebration: Rob Trail, Travis Otten, the newlyweds, Hilary Munson, and Agata Andrevski Dornan.



Lindsay McPherson '03 and Matthew Batastini '03 were married on September 25, 2010, in Middlebury, Vt., at the Congregational Church. Friends celebrated with the couple at the reception at Basin Harbor Club on Lake Champlain: (All '03 unless noted) Fred Wyshak, Meaghan McCormick, Nicholas Yim, the newlyweds, Monica Dealy, Michelle Higginson, Ali Perdue Hildebrand, (second row) Christopher Ramsey '02, Christopher Jennings, Sarah Ohle, Sarah Peters, Sean Meyer, Katie Ziemba, Lauren Brierley, (third row) John Mitchell, Meagan Dodge, Katherine Milgram, Heather Tory Dougherty, Kevin Dougherty, David Boyd, and Ashley Hill Boyd '06.

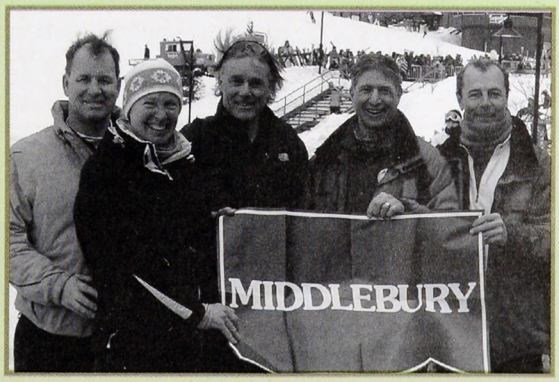
Several Middlebury grads joined the celebration at a retirement party for Bob Bourque '75 on February 25 in NYC: Gordon Jamieson '75, Susan Polk '75, Bob, Kathy Brew '75, Brad Bender '75, Glen Wehrwein '68, and Rory Riggs '75. Missing from photo: Ralph Gardner '75.

Some members of Team Yahoo! returned to Powder Creek Lodge in the Purcell Mountains of British Columbia in March: Drew Schembre '83, Paul Quinlan '84, and Matt Ellenthal '84.

Midd friends gathered at a party in Falmouth, Maine, in May: Amy Flanders Harris '97, Shannon Detweiler Nguyen '95, Jed Harris '99, Hieu Nguyen '92, John Sterling '96, John Hanson (former director of admissions), Wendy Russell Tracy '95, Ann Hanson (former dean of student affairs), and Lindsay Lutton Sterling '96.

On September 1, 2010, Lucia Batchelder '77 and Bob Bell were married in a small private ceremony at their home in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Friends from the Class of 1956 met up on campus on Reunion Weekend: Judy Phinney Stearns, Rev. Ron Lawson, Peg Straus Patierno, and Ned MacDowell.



On March 12 a group of Midd '78ers got together for a ski day at Sugarbush. Joining in the fun were Bob Wilson, Katie Shepherd, Jack Dobek, Michael Abend, and Bern Terry.

plete her student teaching at Middlebury Union Middle School. ✷ **Amanda Bowen** is pursuing a master's in education at Harvard Univ. ✷ Several classmates are in Washington, D.C. **Harrison Brown** is working as a strategic research analyst at the Advisory Board Company. He's living with fellow classmate **Ben Weitz**, who teaches eighth grade English at Columbia Heights Educational Campus. ✷ **Denizhan Duran** works as a global health policy research assistant at the Center for Global Development. ✷ **Mac Staben** is studying meiotic recombination as a postbac IRTA at the National Institutes of Health. ✷ **Tiernan Meyer** works at Avalere Health, a healthcare advisory services firm. ✷ **Abhishek Sripad** is studying medicine at Dartmouth Medical School. ✷ Elsewhere, **Sabrina Bektesevic** was accepted into Teach for America in the Miami-Dade region and is teaching English at the high school level for two years. She's also spearheading fund-raising and recruitment for Builders for Peace, a nonprofit organization that sends American college students to a war-torn town in northeast Bosnia-Herzegovina to teach English and volunteer at a local school and orphanage every summer. ✷ **Casey Mahoney** is pursuing a master's degree in international policy studies and Russian at MIIS in Monterey, Calif. ✷ **Johna Iannitto** is studying for a doctor of chiropractic degree as well as a master's in exercise and sports science at the University of Western States in Portland, Ore. ✷ **Caroline Grego** is at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, working on a master's in geography. ✷ Over the summer **Mariella Saavedra** interned with the AFL-CIO then started a psychological counseling master's program at the Teachers College of Columbia University in the fall. ✷ **Margaret Clark** is pursuing a master's in Greek and/or Latin languages and literature at the Univ. of Oxford. ✷ **Nick Plugis** is pursuing a PhD in chemistry at Stanford Univ. ✷ **Alexi Bloom** attends Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola Univ. in Chicago. ✷ **Zheng Zheng** is pursuing a PhD in analytical chemistry at the Univ. of Michigan. ✷ **Cleopatra Cutler** works as an international trade intern at the Washington State Department of Commerce in Seattle. ✷ **Jane Yoon** is working as a staff research associate doing multiple sclerosis research at UCLA School of Medicine in the neurology dept. ✷ **DeHanza Merritt** is pursing a master's in library and informational science at the Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa. ✷ **Laura Budd** is a Princeton-in-Africa fellow working at Mpala Research Centre and Wildlife Foundation in Laikipia, Kenya, for the year. ✷ **Vince Blais** is moving to Mongolia to take a position as an investment analyst with an Ulaanbaatar-based private equity fund focused in natural resource development. ✷ **Nancy Riwa** is working as a business analyst in management consulting at Deloitte in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. ✷ **Christine Hsieh** is interning at Split Works—a concert promotion and youth-marketing agency—in Beijing, China. ✷ **Chris Opila** is studying Arabic as a CASA Fellow at the American Univ. of Cairo. ✷ **Hannah Dzimitrowicz** works as a clinical research assistant at UNC in Chapel Hill and is applying to medical school. ✷ **Johanna Interian** is working as a legal assistant at Immigration Law & Litigation Group in Miami, Fla. ✷ **Matt Vukich** works at Epic Systems, an IT healthcare software company, as an implementation consultant in Madison, Wis.

—Class Correspondents: *Ashley Cheung (cheung.ash@gmail.com); Carly Lynch (cjlynch489@gmail.com).*

OBITUARIES

31 **E. Parker Calvert**, 101, of McLean, Va., on March 31, 2011. During WWII he served in the Navy in Europe, participating in the Normandy and Brittany campaigns before joining Vice Admiral Alan Kirk's staff in Paris. With graduate work at the Univ. of Chicago and a degree from the Stonier School of Banking at Rutgers Univ., he was employed in commercial banking his entire career. Working at several different banks, he eventually took a job with the First National Bank of Boston, retiring in 1973. In retirement he resided in Southwest Harbor, Maine, for almost 20 years and was an ardent sailor. Predeceased by wife Edith (Coale), he is survived by sons John, Robert, and Skipwith, daughter Helen Bergman, 12 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

35 **Winifred R. Clark**, 97, of Brattleboro, Vt., on February 14, 2011. She took a secretarial course and worked in the admissions office of Northfield (Mass.) School for Girls. After earning a degree from Marlboro College and taking education classes at Keene Teachers College, she taught fourth grade in Hinsdale, N.H. She then worked at the School for International Living. Before retiring she worked 10 years as a cook for the priests at St. Michael's Rectory. She gave generously of time and money to many charitable organizations, including Habitat for Humanity. She is survived by brother Robert Clark.

36 **Isabel Kinney Frakie**, 95, of Grand Rapids, Mich., on January 22, 2011. A member of Pi Beta Phi at Middlebury, she attended Albany (N.Y.) Business College following graduation and did substitute teaching. After moving to Michigan, she worked as a receptionist and secretary, retiring in 1981. She was active in a philanthropic educational organization, bridge, church activities, and golf. Survivors include sons Tom and Jim, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

37 **Alice Crosby Loomis**, 95, of East Dummerston, Vt., on January 22, 2011. Her first job after college was with the Holstein Friesian Assoc. in Madison, Wis., then in Brattleboro, Vt. Later she was employed as a proofreader by American-Stratford Typesetters in Brattleboro until her retirement in 1981. She was a member of the Dummerston Congregational Church, a volunteer for Brattleboro Area Hospice, and a member of the Putney Senior Group. Predeceased by husband Robert and son Robert, she is survived by daughter Betty Ann Morse, one granddaughter, two great-grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

38 **Helen Kelley Stafford**, 93, of Rutland, Vt., on February 27, 2011. At Middlebury she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. After graduating, she married Robert Stafford and, while raising four daughters, supported his political career, including working on all his campaigns. She was also active in the community, serving on the Rutland Hospital Auxiliary and Green Mountain College board, and doing Red Cross volunteer work. She enjoyed boating, camping, skiing, and crafts. Predeceased by husband Robert '35, she is survived by daughters Madelyn Glase '63, Susan Mohr '67, and Barbara and Dianne Stafford, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Deceased Middlebury relatives include father-in-law Bert Stafford, Class of 1901, sister Katharine Kelley Hunt '36, brother Allan Kelley '44, and cousins Edris Thayer '24 and Dorothy Hay '28. Surviving Middlebury relatives include niece Sandra Anderson Bolton '61.

39 **Elizabeth M. Letson**, 93, of Lexington, Mass., on February 9, 2011. Following graduation, she attended Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School and worked in the executive offices of Parker House in Boston as secretary to the director. She also worked at Harwood & Gray as a legal secretary. She is survived by cousins Marianne Fassett and Nancy Smith.

Dorothy Harris Ramsey, 90, of Morristown, N.J., on June 10, 2009. Leaving Middlebury after two years, she attended Berkeley Secretarial School in 1937–38. She worked as an executive secretary in the president's and comptroller's offices of United Advertising Corp. then in 1956 became the bookkeeper and accountant for the family business, Bon Marche, a women's apparel shop in Bernardsville, N.J. She and husband Bill adopted daughter Patricia in 1952.

Robert R. Rathbone, 95, of Brunswick, Maine, on February 23, 2011. After teaching high school English, he enlisted in the Navy during WWII as a communication officer on the staff of Admiral Badger, commander destroyers, Atlantic fleet. He earned his master's in comparative literature and the teaching of literature from Harvard Univ. and became a technical writer and editor for Project Whirlwind, a research project at MIT that developed the first high-speed, general-purpose digital computer. Later he joined the faculty at MIT where he taught for over 30 years and became a professor of technical communication, authoring several books on the subject. He was an avid bird-watcher, loved collecting antique clocks, restoring old radios, and painting in oil. Predeceased by wife Harriett (Durkee), he is survived by daughter Anne Winskie '75 and husband John, and his dear friend, Katherine Pew.

40 **Esther Korn Kerschner**, 92, of Durham, Conn., on January 14, 2011. After graduation, she taught high school French and English. With a master's in education from the Univ. of Hartford, she taught English and developmental reading in the Middlefield (Conn.) school system. She served as the assistant town clerk in Durham for 15 years and served on the local board of education for 12 years. Interested in political activities, she was an avid worker for the Durham Democratic Party. Predeceased by husband Ira, she is survived by son Alan, daughters Jane Siebeneck and Anne Schubert, and five grandchildren.

Clare Lull Lighthall, 92, of Manchester, N.H., on January 21, 2011. While raising her sons, she was active in volunteer work for welfare and libraries. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Society of Mayflower Descendants. She especially enjoyed researching genealogy, which she did for her own family and for other people. Predeceased by a son, John, she is survived by husband J. Allen, sons John and Peter, and five grandchildren.

Charles S.B. Rumbold, 91, of Coarsegold, Calif., on March 20, 2011. Upon graduation, he was designated second lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and was sent to the South Pacific as a dive-bomber pilot. After WWII, he applied for a regular commission and stayed with the Marine Corps until retiring in 1967. He then had a long career in real estate with Rumbold Realty Investments. Predeceased by wife Montana (Whitaker), he is survived by daughter Ginny Burdick, her husband Jeff, and two grandsons.

Hazel Phelps Stannard, 92, of Fair Haven, Vt., on January 6, 2011. She began her teaching career as music teacher and choir director at Fair Haven High School and Poultney High School. After 15 years she retired but then worked two years in the reading program at Green Mountain College. Retiring again, she spent many years teaching private music lessons. An active member of the Congregational Church, she served as choir director for 40 years. She enjoyed playing bridge and doing Western-style square dancing with her husband. Predeceased by husband George, she is survived by sons George '64, Philip, and Robert, 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include grandfather Erastus Phelps, Class of 1861.

41 **Mary Stetson Farquhar**, 91, of Lutherville Timonium, Md., on January 20, 2011. After raising her six children, she worked in a bookstore of old and rare medical books and then as dean of day students at a Quaker school. She and her husband bought the *Marblehead Messenger* in Marblehead, Mass. After selling the newspaper, she worked at the Landmark School in Beverly, Mass. Predeceased by husband Roger, she is survived by daughters Ann, Judith, Cynthia, and Molly, sons Tom and Peter, and five grandchildren. Middlebury relatives include brother John Stetson '44.

Ruth Hardy Scheidecker, 90, of Shelburne, Vt., on February 4, 2011. After Middlebury, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta and the Mountain Club, she attended secretarial school. She was an assistant underwriter for an insurance company and worked for OSS in Washington, D.C. During WWII she worked in Brazil for a U.S. base adjutant. While raising her daughters in New Jersey, she was active in the Congregational Church, the YMCA, AAUW, and her children's activities. In 1997 she moved to Wake Robin Lifecare Community, where she enjoyed painting classes. Predeceased by husband Charles, she is survived by daughters Frederica Williams and Helen Riehle, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include sister Virginia Hardy Moser '50.

Mildred Potter Tesar, 91, of Hampton, N.H., on March 28, 2011. At Middlebury she was in Phi Mu sorority and played field hockey. After leaving the College she attended Katherine Gibbs School. In 1944 she married Robert Tesar and they had four children, David, Christopher, Susan, and Karen. She enjoyed volunteering at Exeter (N.H.) hospital and sailing. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Louise Monroe Potter, Class of 1912, uncle Willys Monroe, Class of 1912, aunt Marjorie Bates Monroe, Class of 1912, and cousins Marjorie Monroe Hobbs '43 and Marianne Monroe Glazier '39. Surviving Middlebury relatives include cousin Carolyn Wells '65.

42 **Jean MacDonald Bagley**, 90, of Eastham, Mass., on January 12, 2011. After graduating as president of her class, she earned two postgraduate degrees, one from Connecticut State College and one from the Univ. of Hartford. She taught English at various schools, including 12 years at Weaver High in Hartford, Conn. She was also a reading consultant at the Connecticut Correctional Institute. In 1984 she was part of a fact-finding delegation to Nicaragua and became involved with the Sanctuary Movement for Salvadoran refugees. She also administered the Shaw Fund for Mariner's Children for the Cape and Islands. Predeceased by husband W. Nelson, she is survived by sons Mike, David, and Peter, daughter Jean, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

In Memoriam

Fred F. Neuberger '50

July 25, 1925–July 30, 2011

Fred F. Neuberger, 86, one of Middlebury College's most influential and beloved administrators over the past half-century, passed away on July 30, 2011. His involvement at Middlebury began as a student and continued through his retirement in 1991 after serving as the dean of freshmen men from 1955–1958, director of admissions for men from 1958–1964, director of admissions from 1964–1985, and dean of admissions from 1985–1991. During his time in admissions, he had a major impact on the quality and diversity of the student body. He worked to broaden the geographic base of prospective students and expand the availability of financial aid. He will also be remembered for creating the "February Freshmen" program in the early 1970s.

Born in Pittsfield, Mass., he enlisted in the U.S. Army on his 18th birthday during WWII and became a member of the 10th Mountain Division, training with that elite unit in the Rocky Mountains. Deployed to Italy, he saw combat and earned a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. In 1945 he was captured by a German patrol and spent time in a POW camp before being liberated by Allied forces led by General George Patton. In 1946 he matriculated at Middlebury where he was a political science major and skied competitively on the first ski team at the College to win the NCAA championship.

He served in the admissions office at RPI before returning to Middlebury, where in addition to his admissions work, he coached baseball and women's skiing, taking the women's team to a national championship in 1957. Upon his retirement, the board of trustees recognized his years of service by naming him dean of admissions emeritus, and the alumni association presented him with the Alumni Plaque Award. In 1998 the College conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters upon him.

In retirement he volunteered in the local high school woodshop and at community suppers and enjoyed skiing, golf, and cheering on his beloved Panthers. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Dottie (Bigelow) '58, sons Karl and Peter, daughters Mary Alice and Christie, and nine grandchildren.

Philip W. Robinson Jr., 90, of Keene, N.H., on March 14, 2011. During WWII he served in the U.S. Navy as a flight instructor at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station. Earning an MS from Syracuse Univ. in 1947, he became a partner in the accounting firm of Nicholson and Robinson, CPAs, in Syracuse, N.Y., retiring in 1982. He was a member of the N.Y. State Society of CPAs and served as president of the Syracuse chapter. He was also a member of the Syracuse Rotary Club for 51 years and served on the board of directors and was active in the Boy Scouts of America as an assistant scoutmaster. In 2002 he was honored with the Outstanding Service Award from Northfield Mount Hermon School, having graduated from Mt. Hermon in 1938 and serving as class agent for many years. Survivors include wife Elizabeth (Blanchard) '42, sons David '67 and Andrew, daughter Lucia Ann, and six grandchildren.

43 **Elaine Herron Hadley**, 89, of Hilton Head, S.C., on March 23, 2011. After graduating, she worked as a writer and editor. While raising her children in Hudson, Ohio, she served on the board of the Hudson Library, the Historical Society, the League of Women Voters, and the Hudson PTA. In 1982, she and her husband sailed their boat from Lake Erie to the coast of Maine and settled in Sedgwick, where she was a member of the Maine Audubon Society. Predeceased by husband Albert '43 and sister Nancy Herron Neumeyer '49, she is survived by sons Bruce and John, and two grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include great-nephew Douglas Kincade '83.

Barbara Higham Winner, 89, of Wayne, Pa., on January 11, 2011. After graduation she did social work in Philadelphia. Marrying in January 1945, she lost her husband on the *Indianapolis* in WWII. While raising her daughter, she was an active volunteer in church activities and served on various community boards. She was a member of the National Society of Colonial Dames, the Society of New England Women, and Pi Beta Phi sorority. Predeceased by husband Edmond Trudeau and second husband George Winner, she is survived by daughter Betsy Trudeau Morgan '67, three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include niece Lee Higham Tinker '86.

Reginald Wooldridge Jr., 90, of Utica, N.Y., on February 1, 2011. During WWII he served in the Army in Company E 475th Infantry Regiment and saw action in the North and Central Burma Mars Task Force Campaign in India, Burma, and China. He worked in the Rochester, N.Y., office of the Better Business Bureau from 1947–1951 then managed the Utica, N.Y., office until 1971. He was associated with Blue Cross-Blue Shield in the public relations dept. in Utica until 1976 then worked in the business office of the Masonic Care Community until retirement. Predeceased by wife Doris (Child), he is survived by son Jeffrey, daughters Jan, Joann, and Jennifer, and 11 grandchildren.

44 **Alvin A. Rathbun**, 88, of Los Altos, Calif., on February 23, 2011. During WWII, he served in the Army in Italy and was awarded a Purple Heart. After earning his MBA from Stanford, he cofounded a soils engineering firm, Testing and Controls, which later became Earth Systems where he served as secretary-treasurer. He was instrumental in the incorporation of the town of Portola Valley, Calif., and served on the planning commission for several years. He was also a member of the Palo Alto Kiwanis Club and the Alpine Hills Tennis and Swim Club. Predeceased by first wife Virginia (Madison) and daughter Victoria Gill, MA French '89, he is survived by wife Sally, daughter Susan Martin, stepdaughter Lisa Lemoin, and three grandsons.

45 **Alan Wolfley**, 87, of New Canaan, Conn., on March 8, 2011. In WWII he served in the Army Air Corps, attaining the rank of captain and flying 51 B-24 combat missions over Europe, mostly as a squadron bombardier for the 451st Bomb Group and 724th Squadron of the 15th Air Force. With an MBA from Harvard, he held top financial and executive positions with five Fortune 500 companies until the mid-1970s before breaking with the corporate world. He then participated in several successful entrepreneurial ventures in the international natural resources field, including his pioneering work in the Colombian seaborne coal trade. He was also a highly proficient golfer and found time to play most of the 100 classic courses in the world. A loyal Midd alum, he was an active volunteer, which included serving as a class agent, class secretary, and reunion social chair among other activities. He predeceased wife Joanne (Higgins) '45 by two and a half months. He is survived by sons Alan and William, daughter Susan Baumgartner, seven grandchildren, including Lisa Baumgartner '04 and Andrew Wolfley '15, and two great-grandchildren.

Joanne Higgins Wolfley, 88, of New Canaan, Conn., on May 22, 2011. During her years in New Canaan, she was an active member of the United Methodist Church, singing in the choir and serving as a volunteer as well as managing the administrative office. She was also instrumental in the operations of her husband's business activities, managing the office, running the company books, and hosting and entertaining business colleagues and friends. She enjoyed bowling and spent many years atop the women's league at Wee Burn Country Club. Predeceased by husband Alan '45, she is survived by sons Alan and William, daughter Susan Baumgartner, seven grandchildren, including Lisa Baumgartner '04 and Andrew Wolfley '15, and two great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include brothers Richard '55 and Edward '51 and his wife, Jean Maintain Higgins '51, and niece Nancy Higgins Berke '77.

46 **Elaine Gavagan Eichorn**, 85, of Charlotte, N.C., on February 17, 2011. A member of Kappa Delta sorority at Middlebury, she had a brief career as a teacher before marrying and raising her six children. She was an active volunteer and a longtime member of St. Gabriel Catholic Church. Predeceased by husband John and an infant son, she is survived by daughters Karen Sullivan, Gail Kroeger, Mary Christine Dorociak, and Martha Sallman, sons Kevin and Gary, and 11 grandchildren.

Hazel Godfrey Murphy, 86, of Meredith, N.H., on January 26, 2011. She was a longtime employee of Kodak Co. in Rochester, N.Y., where she worked as a statistician, retiring in 1974. She enjoyed gardening and sewing. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, William. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Louesa Bullis Godfrey '17.

48 **Anne Deininger Kreider**, 84, of Hightstown, N.J., on February 23, 2011. After graduation, she worked in NYC for the Guaranty Trust Co. for four years and then worked at Bell Labs for four years. While raising her children, she did proofreading work and directed the local library, then worked in banking in commercial loans full time, retiring in 1988. She was a member of the National Assoc. of Bank Women and AAUW. Predeceased by husband Philip, she is survived by sons Stephen and Jeff, daughter Anne Whitney, and seven grandchildren.

49 **Roger F. Casavant**, 84, of Natick, Mass., on January 7, 2011. During WWII, he served in the U.S. Navy in the amphibious forces and was a coxswain aboard a personnel landing craft at the invasion of Okinawa. After various jobs at the First National Bank of Boston, the *Natick Herald*, and with publisher Prentice-Hall, he started his own business, a mail-order antiquarian book business, dealing in rare books and first editions. A trustee of the Natick Historical Society, he uncovered the oldest known manuscript of Nathaniel Hawthorne's *A Scarlet Letter,* which brought a record price at auction. Survivors include daughter Janine, and sons Scott and Philip.

Woodford M. Garrigus II, 87, of Ashland, Ohio, on January 11, 2011. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942 and served in the Western Training Flying Command as a flight instructor then finished his service flying the P-38 Lightning fighter aircraft. After graduation from Middlebury, he worked three years with Prof. Bruno Schmidt as an assistant in geology. He earned a master's and PhD in geography from Clark Univ. and taught at several colleges, including many years at Ashland Univ. He had a simultaneous career as a professional oboeist and English hornist and played with several different symphonies, including as principal oboe chair with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra while in college and graduate school and principal oboe with the Akron (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra while at Ashland. Survivors include daughter Catherine, sons Woodford III, Richard, and David, two grandchildren, and sister Patricia and her husband, Philip Porter '50.

Maurice J. Lahue, 89, of Sanford, Maine, on April 3, 2011. He served in the Army before and during WWII, participating in the allied landings in North Africa, Sicily, and Normandy. He was awarded a Bronze Star and oak leaf cluster for his actions in Sicily. He worked for American Cyanamid (later Cyro Industries) for 35 years, retiring in 1988. He is survived by wife Theresa, daughters Anne, Sheryl, and Catherine, sons James and Philip, and five grandchildren.

Allen E. Perry, 86, of Naples, Fla., on March 26, 2011. During WWII, he served in the U.S. Air Force as a lieutenant bombardier in the air corps. He began his professional career with the Upjohn Co. and later became a partner in pharmaceutical supply company Otis Clapp & Son. In the 1970s he joined Hood Yacht Systems in Marblehead, Mass., then became a partner in Falmouth Marine. In his 70s he founded a yacht surveying business in Naples. An avid and accomplished sailor, his many achievements included competing in both the 1964 and 1968 Olympic Finn class trials. He is survived by wife Gay (Clarke), sons Allen and John, daughter Priscilla, five grandchildren, two stepchildren, and two stepgrandchildren.

50 **Harold T. Brew Jr.**, 84, of Somers, N.Y., on February 6, 2011. He served in the Navy in the South Pacific during WWII. With a medical degree from Cornell Univ. and training at Columbia-Presbyterian in NYC, he practiced surgery at the Mt. Kisco Medical Group from 1959–1995. He was chief of surgery at Northern Westchester Hospital from 1983–1985. Survivors include his wife of almost 60 years, Marianne Ughetta Brew '50, daughters Kathy '75, Peggy, and Betsy, sons Harry, Tom, and Michael, and 12 grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include nieces Mary Ughetta '72 and Anne Ughetta Lyons '84.

51 **Josephine Overlock Hoffmire**, 82, of San Rafael, Calif., on January 26, 2011. For over 30 years she had a teaching career, mainly in kindergarten and first grade. She also did some administrative work and her district nominated her for California Teacher of the Year. She sang with the Winifred Baker Chorale and enjoyed attending the Marin Symphony. She volunteered at the Marin General Hospital and tutored children. Predeceased by husband Philip '49 and son Philip, she is survived by daughters Kristen Ocon, Lauren McLeod, and Stacey Freeman, and seven grandchildren.

Henry W. Thomas Jr., 83, of Albany, N.Y., on February 1, 2011. During WWII he served in the 9th Division, 60th Infantry in Europe. He was employed at Behr-Manning Co. from 1954–1966 and at Sears Roebuck from 1966–1987. Predeceased by his wife of 50 years, Patricia (Smith), and son William, he is survived by sons Michael and Richard, daughters Mary and Kathleen, and three grandchildren.

John R. Zeiller, 82, of Williamsburg, Va., on February 16, 2011. He served as a lieutenant junior grade in the Navy during the Korean Conflict. After attending Officers' Candidate School, he was commissioned an ensign and served in a Navy unit at the Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va. Honorably discharged in 1956, he worked 10 years in sales with a small chemical company then took a sales position with Johns-Manville and remained there until retirement in 1988. He is survived by wife Barbara (Bieber) '52, daughters Linda, Susan, and Nancy, and two grandchildren.

54 **Julian C. Hodges**, 78, of Port Charlotte, Fla., on January 7, 2011. After graduation he joined the Marines attaining the rank of captain. He worked in sales and marketing, then moving to

Florida he became a deputy property appraiser for Charlotte County and a part owner of Village Fish Market in Murdock. Survivors include wife Carole Ann, daughters Deborah Reedy and Charlene White, and two granddaughters.

56 **Carolyn Breaks Kretzer**, 76, of Scottsdale, Ariz., on February 13, 2011. After graduating, she worked as a stewardess for TWA and then as a receptionist for a judge. Following jobs included personal loan banking, radio, and copywriting. While living in Arizona, she and her husband were in property investments. Predeceased by husband Frederick, she is survived by son Gregory and his wife, Doris.

57 **Robert L. Dorn**, 75, of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., on April 5, 2011. He was the chief engineer for General Motors Corp., Chevrolet, Pontiac and Cadillac division, for 40 years. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Joanne (Robertson), and sons Mark and Erich.

58 **Patty Phillips Hutchison**, 74, of Vero Beach, Fla., on April 1, 2011. After years of volunteering, and jobs with the campaign of Tom Kean for New Jersey governor and as the assistant to the director of special projects for Jacki Sorensen's Aerobic Dancing, she joined the staff of the Community Foundation of New Jersey as the special projects officer. She also became the executive director of the Council of New Jersey Grantmakers. In 1994 she became the COO of the Foundation, retiring in 1996. Moving to St. John's Island, Fla., she was very active in the community. She is survived by husband William, son Scott, daughter Elizabeth, and two grandchildren.

59 **Virginia Lyons Aliberti**, 73, of Wilbraham, Mass., on January 27, 2011, after a brief illness. She fondly remembered her time at Middlebury and considered it to be the most inspirational time and place of her academic development. After graduation, she worked as a lab chemist at several laboratories in Massachusetts, including Monsanto, where she met her husband. Later she worked at H&R Block for several years and had recently assisted senior citizens with income tax preparation through the AARP Senior Services program. Over the years she volunteered at a variety of outreach organizations, including the American Cancer Society. Survivors include husband Vincent, daughters Maria Aliberti Lubertazzi '92 and Elaine Aliberti Palmer '95, two grandsons, and aunt Barbara Lyons Steele '36.

60 **Joseph L. Arseguel**, 74, of Forestville, Calif., on March 28, 2011. A French native, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1953. In 1958 he moved west to become the sommelier at Chez Lyons in San Francisco. Embracing the macrobiotic diet and philosophy, he bought a horse ranch in 1972 and turned it into a self-sustaining organic farm. In 1980 he moved to Boston and taught shiatsu and nutrition and operated a study-house before returning to California. He is survived by children Benjamin, Ariege, and Sebastien, and two grandchildren.

Caroline Smith Freeman, 71, of Somerville, Mass., on January 4, 2011. At Middlebury she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority and served as the editor in chief of the *Campus* her senior year. After earning a PhD from MIT in 1967, she began teaching political science at the Univ. of Denver in 1971, leaving in 1986. She earned a master's in computer science and worked as a computer network administrator until her retirement in 2005. She is survived by life partner Glenn Hoffman, daughter Elizabeth, son Roger, and two grandchildren.

Robert B. Meyers, 81, of South Burlington, Vt., on February 16, 2011. Before attending Middlebury, he joined the Army and spent eight years learning how to rewire IBM computers. He continued to work in computers in civilian life before moving to Vermont to own and operate the Village Ski Shop in Stowe. During this time he attended the College. Eventually he began his own business providing software for telephone companies across the country. Predeceased by first wife Corinne (Chontos) and second wife Laura (Leonard), he is survived by sons Kurt and Mark Meyers and David Batchelder, daughters Karen Meyers and Anne Batchelder, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

IN MEMORIAM

The following is a list of deaths reported to us since the previous issue went to the printers. Full obituaries will appear in future issues of the magazine.

Margery Plue Young '34 ✳ *July 4, 2011*

Grace Harris Wieners '35 ✳ *July 3, 2011*

Clarice Gilpin Seymour '36 ✳ *August 26, 2011*

Louise Roberts Avery '39 ✳ *July 29, 2011*

Loring P. Lane '39 ✳ *July 18, 2011*

Bettina Ansart Mayo '40 ✳ *June 23, 2011*

Natalie Bailey Phillips '40 ✳ *June 28, 2011*

John L. Albert '41 ✳ *August 18, 2011*

Malcolm Freiberg '41 ✳ *June 27, 2011*

Peter J. Stanlis '42 ✳ *July 18, 2011*

Sarah Tyler Vickers '42 ✳ *May 6, 2010*

Robert L. Bickford '43 ✳ *July 18, 2011*

Lenore Wolff Eakeley '43 ✳ *August 24, 2011*

Helen Bouck Hildebrandt '43 ✳ *August 22, 2011*

Amanda Sanborn Krieble '43 ✳ *August 1, 2011*

Virginia Clemens Lowman '43 ✳ *July 19, 2011*

Stephen G. Wilson '43 ✳ *July 11, 2011*

Jean B. Milligan '44 ✳ *July 6, 2011*

Reginald P. Goddard '46 ✳ *July 12, 2011*

Mary Pitz Hunt '47 ✳ *June 17, 2011*

Nancy Cheesman Baetzhold '48 ✳ *July 30, 2011*

Arthur C. Buettner '48 ✳ *June 19, 2011*

John H. Fitzpatrick '48 ✳ *July 23, 2011*

Jane Murdoch Baker '50 ✳ *July 27, 2011*

John G. Irons '50 ✳ *July 26, 2011*

William A. Stumpf '50 ✳ *July 31, 2011*

Donald W. Christiansen '51 ✳ *July 29, 2011*

Helen Reid Gilmore '51 ✳ *August 2, 2011*

Kenneth J. LeGrys '51 ✳ *July 22, 2011*

Barbara Glenn Pempel '51 ✳ *August 3, 2011*

Paul R. Lincoln '52 ✳ *August 7, 2011*

Charles J. Rielle '52 ✳ *June 18, 2011*

John J. Vogel Jr. '53 ✳ *May 4, 2011*

Frank C. Freer '54 ✳ *June 13, 2011*

Norman G. Kittel '54 ✳ *July 3, 2011*

Joan Folsom Lamon '54 ✳ *June 13, 2011*

Pauline Bibby Kempf '55 ✳ *July 8, 2011*

Phillips G. Terhune Jr. '56 ✳ *August 28, 2011*

Gordon H. Blackburn '57 ✳ *June 17, 2011*

John M. Ingram '57 ✳ *July 6, 2011*

John M. Andrews '58 ✳ *July 29, 2011*

Shirley Whitney Juneo '58 ✳ *August 9, 2011*

Joseph E. Mohbat '58 ✳ *August 10, 2011*

Anne Curtis Odom '58 ✳ *August 25, 2011*

Patricia Johnson Gallman '60 ✳ *April 11, 2011*

William H. Haas '76 ✳ *July 14, 2011*

Victoria Valar '79 ✳ *August 18, 2011*

Paula H. Carlton '88 ✳ *August 31, 2011*

Edward R. Koger Jr. '99 ✳ *July 25, 2011*

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

Robert P. Kroetsch, MA English '56 ✳ *June 21, 2011*

William E. Beane, MA English '62 ✳ *June 28, 2011*

Standrod T. Carmichael, MA English '74 ✳ *August 7, 2011*

Ernest E. Lundy, MA French '66 ✳ *June 27, 2011*

Jane Randol Jackson, MA French '79 ✳ *August 8, 2011*

Gary J. Barlettano, MA German '76 ✳ *August 18, 2011*

Anthony S. LoIacono, MA Italian '48 ✳ *July 6, 2011*

Helen Early Vinuesa, MA Spanish '64 ✳ *August 18, 2011*

Elsie Mosquera Luettgen, MA Spanish '70 ✳ *June 27, 2011*

Eugenia Castellanos, MA Spanish '75 ✳ *August 19, 2011*

In Memoriam

Timothy T. Huang

October 7, 1967–June 14, 2011

Timothy T. Huang, 43, associate professor of computer science, passed away on June 14, 2011, after a long illness. He joined the Middlebury faculty in 1997, coming from the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his PhD, focusing on artificial intelligence (AI). With previous accolades for his teaching and research at Berkeley, he received a prestigious Faculty Early Career Development Award from the National Science Foundation shortly after his appointment at Middlebury. His research involved intelligent vehicle highway systems, but he soon turned to working on AI programs for strategy games, in part to develop more accessible research projects for his students. In his third year at the College he received the Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching.

He took special pride in supervising the involvement of his students in intercollegiate computer programming competitions, as well as in advising the senior theses, independent study projects, and summer research projects of many Middlebury undergraduates. His publications were numerous and included jointly authored papers with students. He took a special interest in discovering fresh ways to teach computer science in a liberal arts setting.

He is survived by wife Chae Sim Huang, daughter Lydia, his parents, and two sisters and their families.

62 **Paul D. Boyd**, 70, of Atlantic Highlands, N.J., on February 23, 2011. After receiving a master's in journalism from Columbia Univ., he worked in the United Nations Development Program from 1963–1995, rising to deputy director of the information division and chief of editorial publications. During that time he earned a PhD in geography from Rutgers Univ. As the official historian for the Atlantic Highlands Society, where he served as a member and also as president, he was the author of *Atlantic Highlands: From Lenape Camps to Bayside Town*. He was the founder and first chairman of the Atlantic Highlands Environmental Commission. He is survived by partner Victor Zakrzewski, and two brothers and their families.

65 **Kingsley Smith Jr.**, 68, of Sunapee, N.H., on January 19, 2011. After graduating from Boston Univ., he worked at Liberty Mutual Insurance before moving to Sunapee and buying Osborne's Marine in Devon. Selling that, he started Sunapee Harbor Marine Center then later owned and operated Sunapee Community Store before retiring in 2007. Survivors include daughter Alison and ex-wife Devon. Deceased Middlebury relatives include father Kingsley '33, mother Virginia (Coley) '32, uncle Milton Lins '38, aunts Margaret Coley Rawson '34 and Elizabeth Coley Congdon '35, and cousin William Miller '50. Surviving Middlebury relatives include aunt Harriet Coley Lins '37 and cousins Elizabeth Congdon-Martin '71, Brian Miller '79, Leslie Miller Scheidler '80, and Sarah Congdon-Martin '01.

66 **William P. Michaels**, 65, of Hillsborough, N.J., on February 20, 2011. With a PhD from the Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, he worked as a programmer in Princeton, N.J., then as a technical writer at Princeton Financial Systems. He was an avid hiker, and he enjoyed classical music and jazz. In his 50s he became a skilled solver of word puzzles and in 1996 joined the National Puzzlers League. He is survived by wife Judy (Rowe) '66.

E. Hunter Stone, 67, of Denver, Colo., on January 26, 2011. At Middlebury he was in the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. After graduating, he enlisted in the Colorado National Guard and after basic training, began working on his MBA at the Univ. of Colorado. In 1968, he was deployed to Phang Rang, Vietnam, attached to the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Base Operations of the 35th TFS Wing and the Fire-Rescue Squadron. After serving in Vietnam, he became a lease broker in the oil and gas business and later joined his father in the family oil and gas exploration business. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He is survived by several cousins.

67 **William E. Richardson**, 65, of Greece, N.Y., on March 20, 2011. After graduating he worked as a media buyer for Compton Advertising in NYC before moving to Washington State where he worked in sales for a radio station then was part owner, VP, and credit manager at Universal Personnel Systems in Spokane. Moving back to New York State, he was a longtime manager at IRR Supply Centers, based in Rochester. He is survived by sons William and Ethan, stepchildren Jenelle and Alicia, fiancée Kathleen Nacy, and eight grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include father Henry '38.

68 **Robert W. Phelps**, 65, of Portsmouth, N.H., on March 7, 2011. After earning his master's from UNH Whittemore School of Business, he spent time in the U.S. Army before he joined Continental Cablevision in Portsmouth. In 1978 he went to work for Consumers Water Co. in Portland, Maine. He was the owner of Conservation Lighting Co. in Westbrook, Maine. He enjoyed collecting books, was a Patriots fan, and loved the beach. Survivors include wife Charlotte (Hosmer), daughters Hannah and Abigail, and one granddaughter.

69 **Charles F. Deedman**, 64, of Tucson, Ariz., on April 6, 2011. After graduating from Franklin College with a degree in journalism, he began his professional golf career as the pro at various golf courses including Quechee Golf Club, Tater Hill Golf Club, and Haystack Golf Club, all in Vermont. His teaching career then extended to clubs in Portland, Maine, Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Phoenix and Tucson, Ariz. He is survived by daughters Jackie and Katie and two grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Kathryn (Trask) '29, father Donald '29, uncles Charles Deedman '36 and Joseph Trask '39, and aunt Mildred Trask Roesch '37.

70 **Sally Gaines Temple-West**, 62, of Ithaca, N.Y., on January 20, 2011. Her fluency in German and French led her to become a member of the first class of Pan Am Airways flight attendants to be trained in the then-new Boeing 747. After a long career with Pan Am, she retired to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. She was predeceased by first husband Dennis Kavanaugh and second husband Nigel Temple-West.

77 **Christopher J. Baldwin**, 56, of New Orleans, La., on January 7, 2011. After graduation, he taught for a year then began a career in the restaurant business. Moving to New Orleans, he worked at Chez Henri in the Meridien Hotel, the Palace Café, and Mr. B's Bistro. Most recently he was the banquet chef at Arnaud's Restaurant, where he worked for 15 years. He enjoyed running and biking and taught himself to play classical guitar. Predeceased by father Brewster, he is survived by mother Marie, sister Jean McLevedge '69, brothers David and Stephen, two nieces, and a nephew.

78 **Dunstan A. McNichol**, 54, of Ewing, N.J., on January 4, 2011. After college he worked for the *Passaic* (N.J.) *Herald-News*, beginning a lifelong career in journalism. He worked for several different newspapers before joining the *Star-Ledger* in Newark in 1998, where he covered the statehouse for 10 years and was part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2005 for coverage of then-Gov. Jim McGreevey's resignation. His investigative reporting exposed many instances of corruption in state agencies and offices over the years and he was the recipient of numerous national and regional journalism awards. In 2009 he joined *Bloomberg News*. He is survived by wife Michelle, son Jake, and four sisters, including Jane McNichol '72.

81 **Sylvia Allen Duncan**, 52, of Severna Park, Md., on March 9, 2011, of a cerebral hemorrhage. A Phi Beta Kappa at Middlebury, she went to work at Kali-Chemie, a U.S. subsidiary of a German chemical conglomerate. Beginning in the accounting dept., she became the office manager and rose to the role of CFO and treasurer of the U.S. operations. Moving to Boston, she worked as a senior financial analyst at Siemens-Nixdorf Computers. While raising her three children, she was an active volunteer in her community in Maryland. At the same time she began to develop her interest in computer graphics and Web design. She is survived by husband Peter '80, sons Ian and Stephen, and daughter Theresa.

93 **Hillary E. Brown**, 39, of Los Angeles, Calif., on February 15, 2011. She earned a master's degree in art history from Columbia Univ. in 1996, a JD degree from UCLA Law School in 2000, and was working on her PhD in art history at USC. She worked as a collections cataloguer for the Dept. of Special Collections at the Getty Research Institute and clerked for a federal magistrate judge. Survivors include husband Phil Curtis, parents Gary and Lolly Brown, and sister Lindsay '96, her husband Sasha Mazo, and son Luca.

FACULTY EMERITUS

John S. Wilders, 83, of Oxford, England, on April 21, 2011. After graduating from Cambridge University where he had been a prominent member of the Marlowe Society acting company, he taught at Oxford for many years. In the early 1980s he began teaching at the Bread Loaf School of English and then in the College's English dept. In 1987 he gave up his appointment at Oxford and joined the Middlebury English dept. by special appointment, becoming the John Hamilton Fulton Professor of Humanities, and retiring in 1998. A world-renowned Shakespearean scholar, he wrote a brilliant study of Shakespeare's plays and edited *Antony and Cleopatra* for the Arden Shakespeare series. While serving as a literary consultant for the BBC's television productions of the complete plays of Shakespeare, he also wrote a companion book for the series. In the world of theater, he was a member of the board of governors of the Royal Shakespeare Co. Predeceased by a daughter and wife Benedikte, he is survived by two sons and several grandchildren.

STAFF

Ann Reba Broughton, 76, of Middlebury, Vt., on February 11, 2011. She worked for 10 years at Simmonds Precision in Vergennes before joining the College in 1972. She began as the secretary for the physics and geology departments and continued in the physics dept. until her retirement in 2003. She enjoyed league bowling, square dancing, and playing cards with friends. Predeceased by daughter Barbara Towne, she is survived by sons Michael and Stephen, and two grandchildren.

Gaynor T. Browne, 87, of Middlebury, Vt., on March 8, 2011. Joining the College in 1968 as secretary to the dining and residence hall director, she worked in food service until 1983 when she transferred to the office of the assistant treasurer as an accounting clerk. She retired in 1990. Active in the community, she served as a volunteer at Porter Hospital, was a member of the Porter Medical Auxiliary, and served on the Addison County Court Diversion Program. She is survived by sons Patrick and Carroll, daughter Bonnie Murray, one granddaughter, and one great-granddaughter.

Aline Laframboise LaFountain, 96, of Bridport, Vt., on July 20, 2011. While helping her husband on the family farm, she worked at the College in the custodial dept. from 1966–1984. She was a strong supporter of St. Mary's Church and St. Mary's School. She enjoyed knitting and made countless pairs of mittens for the Mitten Tree at St. Mary's. Predeceased by husband Raymond and sons Robert and Wilfred, she is survived by daughters Louise Muzaca and Jeannette Cyr, 12 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren.

HONORARY DEGREE

Milton B. Babbitt, 94, of Princeton, N.J., on January 29, 2011. A renowned avant-garde classical composer and electronic music pioneer, his interest in music began early and by age seven he was arranging popular music songs; by age 13 he had won a songwriting contest. He earned degrees from NYU and Princeton Univ., where he later became a member of the faculty. Way ahead of his time, his doctoral dissertation on the 12-tone system of modern composers was rejected by Princeton in 1946 but 46 years later, the university presented him with his doctorate degree in historical musicology. As a modern composer, he became an early inventor of electronic music when he combined electronic and vocal music to create his compositions. He was a founder of the Committee of Direction for the Electronic Music Center of Columbia-Princeton Universities and a member of the editorial board of Perspectives of New Music. He was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship and a Pulitzer Prize citation for his work. Several colleges and universities awarded him honorary degrees, including Middlebury in 1968.

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Thomas L. Sherer II, 86, MS Chemistry '51, of Rochester, N.Y., on November 7, 2010. During WWII he served in the Burma-China-Indian Theater as a mechanic servicing antiaircraft batteries and military vehicles. He began work with General Electric in 1951 and spent his career there, rising to senior wire magnet engineer and earning a number of patents that are still in force. Predeceased by wife Francess (Weida), he is survived by five children, 10 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Edward H. Williams, 64, MS Biology '74, of North Mankato, Minn., on February 19, 2011. With a PhD in anatomy from Emory Univ., he was a professor and researcher at the Univ. of Virginia Medical School from 1983 to 1990. He then began his 20-year career at Minnesota State Univ. in the Department of Biological Sciences, where he taught human anatomy, embryology, and endocrinology. He is survived by wife Carolyn (Herr) '74 and daughter Alison.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

39 **Helen Cadden Merrill**, 97, MA French, of Franconia, N.H., on November 19, 2010. She taught French in the Weston, Mass., school system and at the former Choate School for Girls in Brookline, Mass.

42 **Alice Bocquel Hartwell**, 97, MA French, of Waterville, Maine, on January 4, 2011. For many years she taught at Waterville High School and served as chair of the foreign language dept. She also was an instructor at the Univ. of Maine NEDA French Institute and at Colby College Summer Language School.

47 **Donald J. Hamlin**, 89, MA French, of North Kingstown, R.I., on December 17, 2010. Serving in the U.S. Army in Australia in WWII, he was a cryptographer in the division that was instrumental in breaking the Japanese code and ending the war in the Pacific. For many years he was a French and Spanish teacher at Maplewood (N.J.) Junior High School, retiring in 1982. Widow Natalie (Richmond) is a member of the Class of 1948.

49 **Jean A. Cappellino**, 85, MA Italian, of Rochester, N.Y., on December 31, 2010. She served as a teacher and as the director of foreign languages and of the Major Achievement Program in the Rochester City School District. In 1994 she was awarded the Distinguished Peace Service Award for her work with various organizations, including Amnesty International.

53 **Joan R. Costa**, 88, MA Italian, of Newburgh, N.Y., on February 11, 2011. She taught for many years in the Newburgh City School District.

57 **Alden Y. Sonander**, 84, MA Spanish, of Pleasanton, Calif., on December 19, 2010. He taught high school Spanish for 38 years, first in Ohio then on Long Island, spending 25 years in Garden City, N.Y., teaching at both the high school and the community college. He met wife Dorothy (Sandbeck), who also earned a master's in Spanish in 1957, at Middlebury.

61 **Clifford L. Crowe**, 79, MA German, of Riverside, Calif., on March 9, 2011. He served as a market-research manager for the *Press Enterprise* then taught German at Techachapi High School before running a graphics business, Crowe Printing for 25 years.

63 **Patricia A. Brenner**, 78, MA English, of Rancho Mirage, Calif., on February 28, 2011. She taught high school then served as a master teacher in Harvard's master of arts in teaching program. Earning a PhD in philosophy from Kent State Univ., she taught American literature at Calif. Polytechnic State Univ., retiring as a full professor in 1992.

65 **Elizabeth A. Hess**, 77, MA French, of New York, N.Y., on December 13, 2010. With a PhD from Columbia Univ., she taught French at the high school and college level, including serving as an assistant professor of French at Dartmouth.

Walter P. Guenther, 92, MA French, of Colonie, N.Y., on February 7, 2011. Born in Berlin, Germany, he served in the German Army in WWII in Russia. Emigrating to the U.S. in 1953, he earned his PhD in German and French at the Univ. of Albany (N.Y.). He taught French and German at Albany Academy and Albany High School for many years, retiring in 1981. He was also a lecturer and adviser at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

66 **Brigitte Zapp Archibald**, 68, MA German, of Greensboro, N.C., on December 15, 2010. For 34 years she was a professor of German at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State Univ.

Edward P. Freedman, 82, MA German, of Fairfax, Va., on January 28, 2011. A graduate of West Point, he had a career in the Army, including service in Vietnam. He was a professor of German at West Point during his Army career and was on the faculty of the U.S. Army War College prior to retirement. After retiring as a colonel in 1978, he was a professor at Northern Virginia Community College.

Phyllis Kittelberger Miller, 101, MA English, of Rochester, N.Y., on January 21, 2011. She taught in the Palmerton, Pa., schools for many years, retiring in 1974.

68 **Robert E. Kauffman**, 73, MA English, of Arnold, Md., on March 3, 2011. He taught high school English, then joined Anne Arundel Community College's theater and performing arts dept. in 1972, teaching technical theater, speech, and play production courses. Retiring in 2003 as performing arts professor and dept. chair, he was awarded professor emeritus status the next year. Students selected him on five occasions for their Students Assoc. Distinguished Service Award.

G. Donald Miller, 78, MA English, of Hudson, Fla., on November 28, 2010.

69 **Nancy J. Davis**, 67, MA English, of North Bethesda, Md., on November 20, 2010. Licensed as a clinical psychologist, she worked as a psychotherapist at Charles River Hospital in Wellesley, Mass., before moving to the Washington, D.C., area in 1998. She joined the Department of Health and Human Services as a senior public health adviser, working as a researcher, writer, and editor and retiring in 2008.

70 **Pamela O'Neal**, 62, MA German, of Resaca, Ga., on February 5, 2011. With a degree from Tulane Medical School, she practiced internal medicine in Rome, Ga.

71 **Nancy Young Chevalier**, 75, MA French, of Rockville, Md., on February 25, 2011. In the 1950s she worked for the United Nations, then moving to Washington, D.C., worked as a governess to the children of Robert Kennedy. She taught high school French for many years then operated Chevalier French Classes in Bethesda, teaching French and English as a second language.

Muriel Schoonmaker Wiessner, 95, MA English, of Stowe, Vt., on November 21, 2010. During WWII she worked as a nurse's aide at Bellevue Hospital in NYC. In her 50s she returned to school to earn her BA in English literature at Goddard College before attending Bread Loaf.

72 **Ethel Rothman Paley**, 91, MA French, of Cleveland, Ohio, on January 20, 2011. She served as a French teacher for 26 years at Cleveland Heights High School. She belonged to the Jewish Secular Community and Le Cercle Français.

74 Fr. **Joseph A. Lorusso**, 88, MLitt English, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on December 28, 2010. During WWII he served in the Army Transportation Corps. In 1953 he was ordained to the priesthood and during his career, he taught in the English dept. at Stonehill College, Mass., served in the Holy Cross missions in Dacca, East Pakistan, as a teacher at Notre Dame College, and taught at King's College in Wilkes-Barre until retiring in 1983.

75 **Samuel I.A. Anderson**, 84, MA French, of Barnstable, Mass., on January 22, 2011. He served with the Navy in the South Pacific during WWII. With a career in education, he taught at private schools Hillfield, Choate, and Taft, at Ridley College, and for 18 years at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass.

Nancy Morrissey Shea, 77, MA French, of Savannah, Ga., on December 20, 2010. She taught French at Windsor Forest High School in Savannah then served as the foreign language coordinator at the Chatham County Board of Education. In 1977 she became principal of Windsor Forest High School until her retirement. Upon retiring, she began Perfect Solutions, a small transcription and typing business.

76 **Margaret W. Soule**, 69, MLitt English, of Yarmouth, Maine, on November 15, 2010. She taught English in public and private schools in Massachusetts before returning to Maine where she worked as editorial coordinator at J. Weston Walch publisher and then publications director at Waynflete School.

James E. Wyler, 82, MA German, of Akron, Ohio, on January 8, 2011. After serving in the Korean War, he worked at Western Union then worked for 10 years at Radio Free Europe, living in Munich. Returning to the U.S., he taught history and languages in the Akron public schools and at the Univ. of Akron.

78 Fr. **James P. Dalton-Thompson**, 60, MA French, of Falmouth, Maine, on December 1, 2010. Before training to be a minister, he was a teacher and served as chair of the foreign languages and classics dept. at Cranbrook School in Michigan. With a master of divinity from the Episcopal Divinity School, he served several parishes before becoming rector of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Falmouth in 2005.

79 **Jill McKeever Mercer**, 66, MA French, of Newton, Mass., on March 5, 2011. She taught French for over 40 years, first at the Browning School in NYC, followed by several years at Brimmer and May School in Chestnut Hill, Mass., then 29 years at the Winsor School in Boston.

84 **Peter R. Stillman**, 77, MA English, of Charlotteville, N.Y., on February 5, 2011. After teaching at Charlotte Valley Central School, he entered the book publishing field, becoming editor in chief of Boynton/Cook Publishers. He was the author of a dozen books and a widely published poet.

Continued from page 27

protected us from what were our greatest and most visible threats. There was an air of invincibility following the fall of communism, or at least a sense that the country was secure. That sense created a national psyche with a worldview that was very insular, very ethnocentric, and largely unprepared to deal with a world beyond the U.S. that had changed dramatically in a relatively short period of time.

It is no surprise that basic geographic literacy and foreign language competency were national weaknesses for decades: there were no tangible or practical reasons for Americans to engage the world. The world beyond our borders, however, was going through a major transformation: China's globe-changing economic reforms, which continue seemingly unabated, began in the late 1970s; European unification as we know it today had achieved significant momentum by the late 1980s; and the largest threat to democracy for more than 40 years—Soviet Communism—disappeared by the early 1990s.

The totality of these changes created a new world order that most importantly provided new liberties and unparalleled prosperity to hundreds of millions of people, but it also unleashed pent-up ethnic and religious hatred that contributed to the rise of radical Islamic fundamentalism. The disappearance of a totalitarian regime, which had effectively kept stability in historically volatile territories for decades, and the Soviet failure in Afghanistan to quell religious and ethnic opposition to a puppet communist regime were major forces that gave rise to the likes of Al-Qaeda. Despite all these changes over the course of more than two decades, there was little public discussion about how our country should reconsider its insularity or how to educate our young, or any effective political leadership to engage the issue seriously. The pre-9/11 generations, who remain as the policy makers and thought leaders in American society, have clearly missed the opportunity to align our country with what was transpiring elsewhere in the world since the 1970s. You and your generation are going to have the responsibility to change that.

Globalization, with its lowering of social, economic, and political barriers throughout the world, represents radical change for the pre-9/11 adult generations. Most have not adapted to the changes, yet to your generation, the impact of globalization is what your world is all about: access to unlimited information; ease of movement to just about anywhere in the world; unfettered competition for jobs, educational opportunities, and resources no matter where one was born, where one lives, or where one was educated. Included, too, are the collateral issues associated with the advent of instant and cheap access to information and communication: the expressing and promoting of hatred, bigotry, and violence.

For you, the changes in the American psyche brought on by 9/11 are second nature; they are the norm . . . what

you know. As a result, you will quite naturally elect to study languages, most likely Arabic, Mandarin, and Spanish, perhaps Japanese, Portuguese, or Hebrew. You will also quite naturally engage in outreach projects to help individuals anywhere in the world and probably work harder and with more focus than most of us probably ever did to prepare yourselves to compete in labor markets that have become profoundly global. You are in some important ways the antithesis of pre-9/11 generations. You understand there is no longer a *pax Americana*, a world in which the United States can guarantee peace, and you reflexively act accordingly.

To the older generations, the pre-9/11 Americans, the U.S. has, more than anything else, lost its way. What had been unprecedented solidarity among Americans immediately following the September 11, 2001, attacks has descended into divisiveness of a sort few can recall. From the deeply contested wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, to the financial mess caused largely by a massive failure of political institutions to govern our markets, to the present debilitating and increasingly destructive political culture in Washington, whatever confidence Americans felt about government's ability to improve the lives of its citizens has been shattered.

Yet because your generation has come of age in what has been a difficult and dysfunctional period of American political history, your expectations are different than previous generations: you lack the kind of deep-seated disappointment over the current state of affairs that characterizes older generations of Americans. As a result, your generation has the best chance to identify where and how to find hope and optimism in the coming years: your generation will see the challenges before us for what they are and not become distracted by thinking about how it used to be. You will be less constrained in finding ways to tackle the tough issues.

But knowing how to find the best ways to tackle tough issues ties directly into *our* jobs as educators—which is to encourage, indeed force, you to engage your studies in a serious and thorough way, to engage in critical analysis, to master how to ask and answer the most relevant questions, to weigh options, to figure out for yourselves the skills you need to acquire in order to achieve objectives that are meaningful to you, and to be able to place what you learn in a broader context than the one most familiar to you.

The critical analytical skills and content that form the core of a liberal arts education will enable you to stand apart from, reconsider, and adjust your own worldview—your assumptions and convictions about how the world works and how you will fit yourself into making it a better place.

I encourage you as strongly as I can to take advantage of the remarkable resources you have here to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to engage the world with confidence and conviction. Yes, the 21st-century world has its distinctive challenges. But you have special gifts that will help us all overcome those challenges. We are here to help you realize those gifts; that is the nature of a Middlebury education. Please don't pass up the opportunity that is before you beginning tomorrow.

Best of luck, Class of 2015, as you begin your education at this special institution, and may you find joy in all you will learn as part of this caring academic community.

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In today's global market, real estate is still a local business. Are you planning an international real estate transaction? Call a member of the International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI). Gain access to our network of 5,000 members in 50 countries worldwide. Contact Christine Fraioli, CRS, Realtor, Lang McLaughry Spera Middlebury. 802.385.1112, cfvt@gmavt.net; www.vermontlodgingproperties.com

RESTORATIVE RETREAT

HealingSoup in Midcoast Maine. Assisted personal retreats for individuals, couples or small groups seeking restorative rest, reflection or discernment. Rev. Joan Smith '64. HealingSoup.com 207.594.1232.

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Waitsfield, Vermont. Comfortable farmhouse, 6 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, fabulous views, excellent fishing, swimming, golf, tennis, riding, biking & hiking. Matthew Iler '88 978.922.6903.

Bristol, Vermont. "Little Mill House" 12 miles to Midd. Fully reno'd with funky flair. Two full beds, two twins, couch. Downtown yet private hide-a-way, great views/river sounds. Washer/dryer. Soaking tub. Fully furnished. $195/night. John Moyers '86. LittleMillHouse@gmail.com

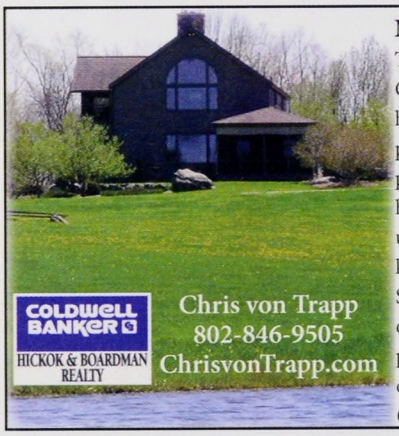
Vail, Golden Peak rental across from Lifts and Ski School. Two blocks to downtown. Custom kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, steam shower, wood-burning fireplace, expansive mountain view. Photos and rates: www.vail-rental.blogspot.com

Irish Ancestral Home by the Sea. Relax and explore Ireland from a lovely, renovated, historic farmhouse on the northwest coast of Ireland. Breathtaking views, numerous nearby golf-courses, beaches, hiking, castles, folklore sites and wonderful day excursions. Visit www.homeaway.com/vacation-rental/p233639 for details.

Provence, France: Two village houses near Vaison-La-Romaine. Bases for relaxation and exploration. Rent reasonably by week. Call 619.342.6149 or 276.676.2292, jjett@sempra.com or scjett@hotmail.com, www.rentalhousesinprovence.com

France, Burgundy. The Gardener's Cottage. Charming 18th century house in quiet French hamlet near Beaune beside historic chateau. Guests have open access to Chateau gardens. Easy drive to Burgundian vineyards, Romanesque churches, chateaux, great restaurants. Luxuriously furnished living room, gourmet kitchen, dining room; three bedrooms, two bathrooms with showers, private garden. Dishwasher, washer, dryer, Wi Fi, Cable TV. Bicycles included. $1,500/week. www.franceburgundycottage.com. Tel 802.453.7855. wkthompson@aol.com

Paris-Elegant Left Bank Apartment. Sixth arrondissement. Walk to the Seine, the Louvre, and the Luxembourg Garden. Near open-air market. 609.924.7520, gam1@comcast.net



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This three bedroom Contemporary is sited on 33 hill top acres with a one acre pond & Green Mt. views. The post & beam design boasts high ceilings, an open uncluttered floor plan, custom kitchen, & fieldstone fireplace. Surrounded by woodlands & other conserved lands, your privacy is secure - a truly rare commodity.
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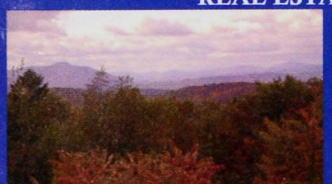
1000 ACRE WOODS ~ Amazing 1,020± acres of gently-sloping forest.
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SHELBURNE BAY ESTATE ~ Landmark Lake Champlain property on 9.70 acres.
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Italian Rental. Historic house
and garden with panoramic views in Civita di Bagnoregio, small hilltown between Rome and Florence. Sleeps up to five. $1,200 weekly. Carol Watts, cmwatts@mac.com, http://web.mac.com/cmwatts/

Almost Home Market

Almost Home Market, on North Street, in Bristol, is a country store for the 21st century and one of Vermont's most delightful upscale culinary destinations. It has a fabulous espresso bar and serves exemplary pastries, salads, soups and sandwiches. You can dine inside or on the porch, weather permitting, or take dinner home. It is well known for catering weddings and other celebratory events of all sizes. Almost Home sells fine wines, champagne and beers, fabulous gifts, home goods, fresh flowers, handmade cards, etc. Retail inventory $12,000 in value included as well as all equipment. SELLER FINANCING POSSIBLE. **$159,000.**

Christine Fraioli '74 and John K. Nelson-*CRS, Realtors, Lodging Property Specialists*

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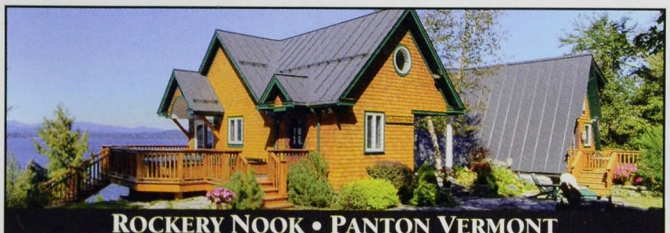

ROCKERY NOOK • PANTON VERMONT

Combine style, a smart design, comfort, a dash of elegance and add Lake Champlain as a backdrop and the Rookery Nook is what you will find! The main home offers 2,000 s.f. of dramatic spaces: 2 bedrooms,1.5 baths, exposed beams, cathedral ceiling, stone fireplace, upscale finishes, hardwood floors, wood cabinetry, endless pool and hot-tub on the side deck. Matching A-frame guest cottage with 1 bedroom and bath. The 259± of lake frontage includes a dock and a boat-lift. 2 car garage. **$1,175,000**

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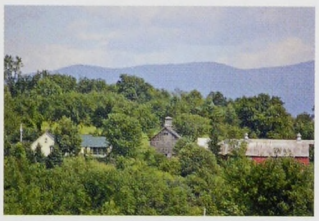
Cornwall This incredible home on a gorgeous ridge in Cornwall was finely crafted by local builder—Geoff Demong ('66). Fir cabinets, built-in shelving, polished concrete/slate/tile floors, radiant heat, stainless steel appliances, double fireplace, storage, 2-car garage, views! Way beyond 5-Star Energy efficient, this home uses about 1/2 the energy of most similarly sized homes. The stucco siding is virtually maintenance free. Plan to spend some time here—it's a magical home! **$650,000**

Ripton The charm & warmth of an historic home; the comfort & efficiency of modern construction. A stunning post & beam constructed of reclaimed, hand-hewn timbers, just 8 miles from Middlebury & bordered by Nat'l Forest. Wildlife, Breadloaf/Snowbowl ski trails, & walking paths all outside the back door—this home offers an unmatched, private mountain location. Spacious, open design on 1st floor includes kitchen island overlooking a dining area & large screened porch, bathroom/laundry room, TV room & cozy living room w/ wood stove. 3 bedrooms upstairs & a large great room/studio w/ vaulted ceiling. One-of-a-kind custom home, owner-built w/ meticulous attention to details, including custom trim-work, cherry cabinets w/ wood harvested from the site's 15 acres, mortise & tenon joinery, & slate, pine, yellow birch & mahogany floors. Insulated, walk-out basement & year-round studio/workshop outbuilding w/ wood stove. A joy to live in! **$419,000**



Fairy Tale Farm, Bridport
Located minutes from downtown Middlebury, this charming, 4 bedroom, 4 bath, country cape w/ ell, was built in 1804 & transformed in 2002 into a gracious bed & breakfast. Sited on 99 +/- acres w/ stunning views of the Champlain Valley & Adirondacks to the West. Enter the house through the lovely cottage garden; sit on the screened-in porch, or cozy up by the fire in the living room. The house exudes a warm atmosphere w/ its wood floors & beautiful bedrooms w/ spacious, well appointed bathrooms. Miles of trails for walking, x-c skiing. Timberframe barn—all set up for a gentleman's farm. The land has been subdivided, so 2 additional building lots are included in this acreage—each w/ views. Kitchen is being upgraded as you read! **A Fairy Tale indeed!! $785,000**

South Ridge, Middlebury
Explore & experience the very best of what Middlebury has to offer. South Ridge provides an opportunity to live in comfortable surroundings, the convenience of a location within walking distance to downtown Middlebury, a gorgeous landscape & an option to build your home now or purchase a generously sized lot for your future home. South Ridge is a growing community of professionals, retirees and families tucked behind the Middle School & adjacent to the Lodge at Otter Creek at the end of Middle Road. Many lot locations offer spectacular mountain views, some offer pastoral & meadow views & others offer a pleasant view of Chipman Hill...the choice is yours! Lot prices range from **$79,500 to $125,000** and build packages are available. Interested in taking a tour of the neighborhood while you're in town?

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Thank You, Mr. Neuberger

A writer fondly remembers a man who changed her life.

By Julia Alvarez '71

I did not know Fred Neuberger well. In fact, at his packed memorial service at Mead Chapel, I was surprised by the many things I had never known about him: that he had been wounded in World War II, that he was a POW. He was a woodworker, a practical joker, an advocate for diversity at the College. He was a man who took chances—*that* I did know about him.

It was a brief encounter in the late summer of 1969. I had been attending the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and was a few weeks away from returning to the Connecticut College for Women for my junior year. Until Bread Loaf, I had never been able to live, breathe, talk about writing 24/7, and as the conference drew to a close, I started having withdrawal pains.

And so on my last afternoon on the mountain, I came down to Middlebury's Admissions Office. It was a lazy summer day, and the only person around was a man who introduced himself as Fred Neuberger. He asked me what he could do for me, and then listened as I told him about my two weeks at the conference, about my love of writing, about how I wanted to transfer to Middlebury. I was 19 years old, smitten with Frost country.

What I did not tell Mr. Neuberger was that I had applied to Middlebury as a senior in high school; that I had not gotten in; that it was just as well because my strict, immigrant Latino *papi* would not allow his daughters to go to coed schools. I didn't tell Mr. Neuberger these things because none of them mattered anymore. I had found fertile ground for my imagination, and I was not about to let mere facts get in the way of a dream.

Mr. Neuberger handed me an application. I had plenty of time: the deadline was four months away.

"No, no, no," I explained. I didn't want to come to Middlebury a year from now; I wanted to come now.

"Young lady," he said in that tough-guy, mock macho style of his. "Them's the rules."

I was close to tears; partly heartbroken, partly ashamed. Who did I think I was putting myself forward this way? "Okay, then I'll just move here. I'll get a job. At least I'll be close to Middlebury until I can come here."

Mr. Neuberger sighed. "How soon can you get this application back to me?"

I bolted up from my chair, as if I was about to fill in the blanks right then and there. "Thank you, thank you, thank you." By now I was hopping up and down.

"I'm not making any promises," he reminded me.

But he had already given me so much: he had listened. He had heard the sound of a young person connecting with her calling. Until Bread Loaf, I hadn't listened to it myself.

Two weeks later my family was packing the car to take my older sister back to college. I had had a standoff with my *papi* and *mami*: I was not going back for my junior year. I wanted to go to Middlebury.

The phone rang. Fred Neuberger was on the line. "Young lady, do you still want to come to Middlebury?"

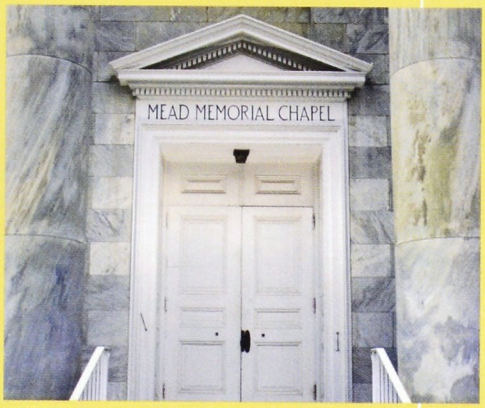
I screamed. Even my parents were impressed, which was why, when we finally did drive up to Vermont from Queens, and my father looked around at a campus crawling with boys, he let me stay. This school had recognized his daughter's talent, and that meant a lot to a man who had put aside his own talents to fight a dictatorship.

When I returned to Middlebury 17 years later to teach, I would tell Mr. Neuberger this story at every occasion. Then I'd let loose with a renewed sally of thank-yous. After the fifth time, he'd just sigh and shake his head. Enough with the thank-yous.

Not quite. Mr. Neuberger, thank you, one last time.

Illustration by Arthur Giron

One World. Many Doors. Your Key.



Your Middlebury education opened a world of ideas, friends, and opportunities. Where would you be without it?

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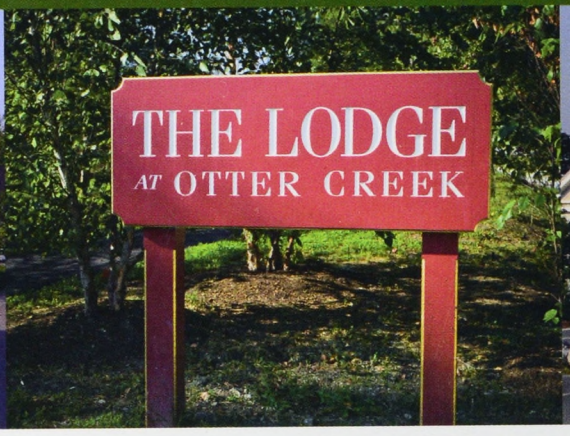

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Owned and operated by Bullrock Corp., and affiliated with The Lodge at Shelburne Bay Senior Living Community.